

THE NATIONAL Wool Grower

Volume XLVI

FEBRUARY 1956

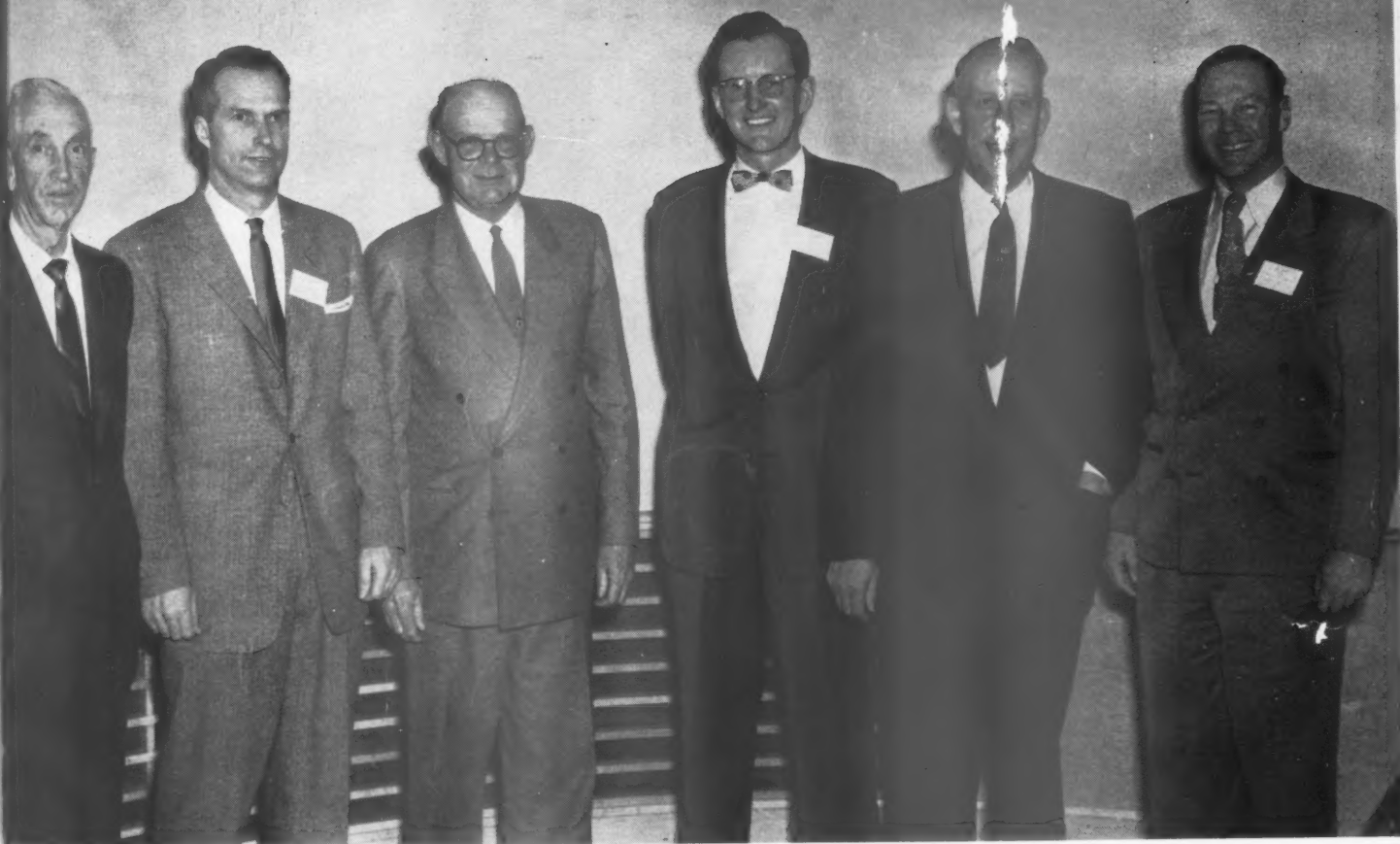
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YOUR 1956 NATIONAL OFFICERS

See page three



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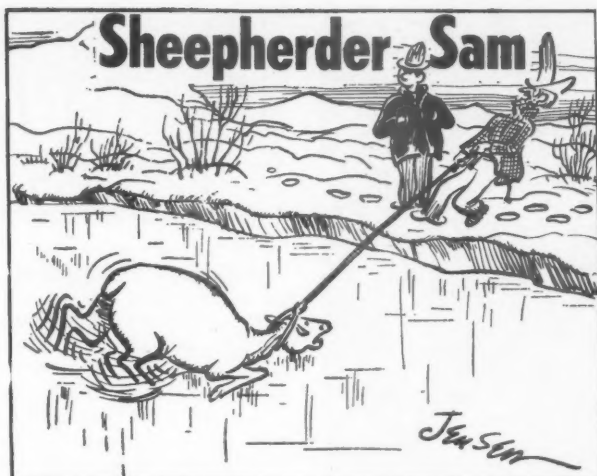
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In This Issue

CONVENTION REPORT:

The 91st annual convention of your National Wool Growers Association was held from January 23 to 26 in Fort Worth, Texas. A complete report on convention activities can be found in this issue beginning on page 13.

Other convention news and speeches, including Rilea W. Doe's, will be printed in the March issue.

PLATFORM AND PROGRAM:

The platform and program of the National Wool Growers Association for 1956 begins in this issue on page 7. These are the resolutions that were passed at the annual NWGA convention.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The report given by NWGA President J. H. Breckenridge before the convention is also printed in full in this issue beginning on page 18.

"THE ASPC BEGINS TO ROLL":

G. N. Winder, president of the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., told the convention of the activities of the ASPC. The complete text of this message may be found in this issue. Page 20.

THE SOIL BANK PROPOSAL:

President Eisenhower's agricultural message to Congress in-

cluded some important ideas on the proposed soil bank. Other items of his farm message are also reported in this issue. Page 23. You can read sheepmen comments on the proposed soil bank in This Month's Quiz. Page 39.

INCENTIVE PAYMENT CHANGES ON LAMBS:

The USDA has announced a change in the methods that will apply in the 1956 marketing year in making incentive payments on lambs under the Wool Act. Read this important revision in this issue on page 25.

UTAH CONVENTION:

A report on the 49th annual meeting of the Utah Wool Growers Association is found in this issue on page 26. Resolutions adopted by the Utah group and photographs of convention activities and officers may be seen on these pages.

ADVERTISING PAYS:

Read the interesting item sent in to the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER by one of the loyal advertisers using this magazine. Page 27. You'll see that advertising really does pay. And remember to patronize the advertisers of your NATIONAL WOOL GROWER. Their funds go toward supporting the functions of your association and your magazine—so they patronize you.

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AN OUTSTANDING QUOTE

"The sheep and wool business goes back to Bible days, and a lot of us are still there, when it comes to packaging and selling wool. Proper packaging could bring our wool back into competition with foreign imports within a few years. But it's not enough for a few sheepmen to do it—the whole industry must act."

—Professor P. E. Neale
New Mexico A & M

NATIONAL SHEEP ASSN.

Sheep farmers from the Cornbelt and southern United States have located offices of their National Sheep Association in Louisville, Kentucky. Samuel R. Guard, editor of the "Breeder's Gazette," is the newly elected secretary of the group.

New president of the National Sheep Association is James L. Noble, Hartley Stock Farm, Page, North Dakota. Roy B. Warrick of Oskaloosa, Iowa is the new vice president, and the treasurer is E. Gordon Bautz, Lutherville, Maryland.

"FASHIONABLE" SHEEP

Citizens of Pendleton, Oregon were somewhat surprised, but pleasantly, when they saw a live Rambouillet ewe and her twin lambs in "unusual" wool coats in the window of C. C. Anderson's. The mother sheep was wearing a shocking pink and her twin lambs were violet. The fashionable wool colors were acquired by dipping the sheep in a cold water dye. The display was originated by Lou Levy of the Cunningham Sheep Company, with the dye work done by the Pendleton Woolen Mills.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR

The Social Security Administration defines agricultural labor (as the term applies to social security under the old-age and survivors insurance program) as "services performed on a farm in connection with the raising and harvesting of products and the raising, etc., of livestock, poultry, bees, fur-bearing animals and wildlife; services in the care of the employer's farm and equipment if performed for the most part on a farm; services performed in handling, process-

ing, or packaging agricultural commodities produced in major part by the employer; services in connection with cotton ginning; and domestic service in or about the household of the employer if performed on a farm operated for profit."

CONSERVATION HEAD NAMED

Paul M. Koger of Tennessee has been appointed administrator of the Agricultural Conservation Program Service. Prior to his appointment he had been area director for the Southeast area of the CSS. The appointment fills a vacancy which has existed since the agency was set up in 1953.

ALLEGED PSYA VIOLATORS

A number of livestock dealers and a livestock commission company at Union Stock Yards, Omaha, Nebraska, have been named as respondents in an order of inquiry issued by the USDA, for alleged violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act, according to a recent Department of Agriculture news release.

The commission firm is the Berigan Brothers Livestock Commission Company. Dealer respondents named in the order include Morton L. Degen; Edward D. Dunning; D. M. Howard; Paul Lungren; Monroe and Taylor; A. E. Ruser and Sons; Jay F. Root; Ralph E. Tetrick; R. E. Smith and Sons; John Smiley; Regan, Regan and Hess; William West, and Brunken and Welsh.

HONORARY DIRECTOR

Thomas E. Wilson—stockman, meat packer, and humanitarian—was honored at the semi-annual meeting of the board of directors of the National Live

Stock and Meat Board on December 2. A pioneer and leader in the field of livestock and meat, Mr. Wilson was presented with a scroll to commemorate the occasion of the seating of the first Honorary Director of the Meat Board.

When the Board voted recently to establish the new position of Honorary Director, the decision had been unanimous and instantaneous that Mr. Wilson should be the first person to hold that honor.

BAILEY MADE "FELLOW"

Reed W. Bailey, director of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, has been elected to honorary grade of "Fellow" by the Society of American Foresters. This Ogden, Utah man was one of nine foresters upon whom the national society conferred this honor in recognition for outstanding achievement in forestry.

The Society of American Foresters has a membership of 11,000 professional foresters in the United States and Canada.

OKLAHOMA BREEDERS ELECT

New officers of the Oklahoma Sheep Breeders Association for 1956 are M. Floyd Ames, Amorita, president; W. A. Drake, Cushing, vice-president, and Prof. Bob Noble, Oklahoma A & M, secretary-treasurer.

They were elected at the annual meeting held in conjunction with a show and sale on the A & M campus in late December. Forest Beall, Nash, and Billy Moehle, Enid, are new directors of the association.

In the sale, 69 sheep were sold for an average of better than \$60 per head.



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about our Cover



PICTURED on this month's cover are your officers for 1956. They were elected during the 91st annual convention of your National Wool Growers Association at Fort Worth, Texas on January 26. Most of these men served in the same offices during 1955. With the death of Wallace Ulmer in March, however, J. H. Breckenridge was elevated to the presidency. This left only four vice presidents instead of five, a condition which existed until the convention last month. David Little, Emmett, Idaho, was selected to fill the vacant vice president's position.

From left to right your NWGA officers are vice presidents Penrose B. Metcalfe, San Angelo, Texas; David Little of Emmett, Idaho; Angus McIntosh, Las Animas, Colorado and President J. H. Breckenridge, Twin Falls, Idaho. Other vice presidents are Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah and Harold Josendal, Casper, Wyoming.

February, 1956

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

President

J. H. Breckenridge, Twin Falls, Idaho

Honorary Presidents

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G. N. Winder, Denver, Colorado
Sylvan J. Pauly, Deer Lodge, Montana
W. H. Steiwer, Fossil, Oregon
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Harold Josendal, Casper, Wyoming
Angus McIntosh, Las Animas, Colorado
Penrose B. Metcalfe, San Angelo, Texas
David Little, Emmett, Idaho

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Edwin E. Marsh, Salt Lake City, Utah

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Lloyd Avilla, Red Bluff, California
Chester Price, Montrose, Colorado
Andrew D. Little, Howe, Idaho
Gerald Hughes, Stanford, Montana
Tony Smith, Salt Lake City, Utah
Julian Arrien, Vale, Oregon
Henry Wahlfeldt, Newell, South Dakota
J. B. McCord, Coleman, Texas
M. V. Hatch, Panguitch, Utah
George K. Hislop, Yakima, Washington
Leonard Hay, Rock Springs, Wyoming

Affiliated Organizations

Arizona Wool Growers Association
14 East Jefferson St., Phoenix

Robert W. Lockett, President
H. B. Embach, Secretary

California Wool Growers Association
151 Mission Street, San Francisco

Lloyd Avilla, President
W. P. Wing, Secretary

Colorado Wool Growers Association
Drovers' Bldg., 1408 East 47th Ave., Denver
Chester Price, President
Dale E. Gillan, Secretary

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Andrew D. Little, President
M. C. Claar, Secretary

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Everett E. Shuey, Secretary

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Tony Smith, President
John E. Humphrey, Secretary

Oregon Wool Growers Association
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Julian Arrien, President
J. P. Steiwer, Secretary

Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association
P. O. Box 1486, San Angelo

J. B. McCord, President
Ernest L. Williams, Secretary

Utah Wool Growers Association
855 South 4th West, Salt Lake City

Don Clyde, President
J. A. Hooper, Secretary

Washington Wool Growers Association
East Cherry Lane, Ellensburg

George K. Hislop, President
Phillip B. Kern, Secretary

Western South Dakota Sheep Growers
Association
Rapid City

Henry Wahlfeldt, President
H. J. Devereaux, Secretary

Wyoming Wool Growers Association
McKinley

Leonard Hay, President
J. B. Wilson, Secretary

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THE NATIONAL Wool Grower

Volume XLVI

February, 1956

Number 2

414 CRANDALL BUILDING, SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

TELEPHONE EM 3-4483

EDITOR: IRENE YOUNG

ASSISTANT EDITOR: T. R. CAPENER

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year; 50 cents per copy. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1918, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1108, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 28, 1918.

RESEARCH NEWS

Stilbestrol implants are not recommended for fattening lambs by the Utah State Agricultural Experiment Station at the present time. Stilbestrol is a synthetic product having properties similar to ovarian hormone. In preliminary feeding trials using stilbestrol implants, lambs failed to gain significantly more than the controls that were not given stilbestrol. But the lambs did exhibit harmful effects from the use of the implants.

Success in growing the foot-and-mouth virus in cultures of swine or cattle kidney cells at the USDA Animal Disease Laboratory at Plum Island, New York, is opening the door to further research on this disease. A newly discovered method makes possible large-scale production of the virus for fundamental studies and vaccine investigations at low cost. Kidneys from one calf supply enough cells to prepare about 50,000 cultures in test tubes, or more than 300 large-scale cultures in quart-sized flasks.

The method used in growing this virus is similar to that employed in growing human-polio virus for the manufacture of polio vaccine.

Foot-and-mouth disease affects cloven-hoofed animals — cattle, sheep, goats, deer, elk, buffalo and antelope.

"Horizontal silos, which are increasing in numbers, must be economical, conveniently located, properly designed, and constructed for long service," emphasized Merle Esmay and Donald B. Brooker at the winter meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. These men stated that many silos, especially some trench silos, have not met these qualifications. Many such silos could not be located for adequate drainage and good feeding arrangements.

"Therefore, above ground construction may be required for silos constructed in the future," stated Esmay, agricultural engineer, Michigan State University, and Brooker, professor of agricultural engineering, University of Missouri.

Researchers at Michigan State University now report that they can measure the thyroid secretion rate of lambs by using radioactive tracers. This they claim, can mean a better way to select sheep for breeding stock. The Michigan tests indicate that lambs which secrete the most thyroxine will produce the most milk for their young, grow fastest, and have the desired breeding behavior.

MESQUITE BULLETIN

Factors important in the spread of mesquite on southwestern rangelands are discussed in a new USDA technical bulletin entitled "Reproduction and Establishment of Velvet Mesquite as Related to Invasion of Semidesert Grasslands."

This publication brings together information gathered from mesquite studies in southern Arizona. Range technicians, stockmen and others faced with mesquite problems will find much useful information in the bulletin.

Copies may be obtained by writing to Raymond Price, director, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colorado.

INCOME TAX BOOKLET

"How to Save Money on Your Farm Income Tax" is the title of a new booklet prepared by the J. K. Lasser Tax Institute and offered free by the Nitrogen Division of Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation.

Written in concise, everyday language, the booklet enables the farmer to grasp his tax deduction situation with a minimum of reading. Among subjects covered are: how to compute your farm income, forms to use, farmer's self employment income, declarations for farmers, and crop damage payments. Especially helpful is a section entitled "Special Tax Saving Check List for Farmers."

A free copy of "How to Save Money on Your Farm Income Tax" may be secured by writing to Nitrogen Division, Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation, 40 Rector Street, New York 6, New York.

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RESULT: a feast or a famine for both lamb consumers and lamb producers. During the "feast" months, lamb supplies and prices are attractive to consumers. But during the "famine" months, prices rise sharply. Available supplies must be shipped to those limited areas where

consumers are willing to pay premium prices. Lamb disappears from the tables of millions of homes for weeks and months at a time. Bad for your business—and ours!

REMEDY: You can help to keep a more even flow of lambs coming to market by adjusting your breeding and feeding schedules. This is one important key to getting more money for your lamb—month-after-month profits. Keep in close touch

with your commission men and your marketing associations for the latest news on the lamb market, and sell your most forward lambs first.

We at Armour will continue to help you build up a steadier year-round demand for lamb. And you can continue to depend on Armour and Company's nationwide sales organization to promote the idea of more lamb for Mary's dinner table.

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THE NWGA'S 1956 PLATFORM AND PROGRAM

**As adopted by the 91st annual convention
Fort Worth, Texas, January 23-26, 1956**

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

1. COMMENDATION OF SECRETARY BENSON

The National Wool Growers Association expresses its appreciation for the exemplary work done by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson in behalf of the wool growing industry.

2. ASPC DEDUCTION

We again request the Secretary of Agriculture to make the one-cent-per-pound deduction from the incentive payment on the 1956 clip for the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.

3. DUES DEDUCTION PROGRAM

We urge that all wool topmakers buying wool at country points cooperate in the dues deduction program for the various State associations which make up the National Wool Growers Association.

We again thank those wool firms and wool dealers who have cooperated in this dues deduction program and urge their continued support.

4. IMPORT QUOTAS

We have noted the following facts:

The tariff on wool was sharply reduced under the Trade Agreements Program;

Raw wool production in the United States subsequent to World War II fell to the lowest level in generations and imports captured over 60 percent of the total domestic market for apparel wool;

All efforts to restore the tariff to its previous level by recourse to existing administrative efforts failed completely;

Recent imports of wool manufactures have risen to record levels and bid fair to go even higher;

The control over tariffs has passed effectively from the hands of Congress into the hands of the State Department, thus closing the door against any hoped-for administrative remedy; and

For these reasons the present tariff or any prospective tariff obtainable no longer meets the needs of wool growers and wool manufacturers for reasonable protection against relentless loss of the domestic market to low-cost imports.

Because of these facts above enumerated, we urge

1. That the National Wool Growers Association seek the establishment of an import quota on raw and manufactured wool to the end that the wool growing industry may be revived and sustained at a healthy level and again become the mainstay of a sound wool manufacturing industry.

2. That in order to accomplish this objective the National Wool Growers Association, without in any way relinquishing support of the tariff, lend its vigorous support to such general import quota legislation in Congress as may be suitable to the ends expressed herein; and

3. That this support be communicated to the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States.

5. ORGANIZATION FOR TRADE COOPERATION

We have noted with increasing concern during the past decade the shift, from Congress to the Department of State, in the formulation and execution of tariff and trade policies of our Government. This trend is diametrically opposed to provision of the Constitution of the United States which places upon Congress both the power and the responsibility of regulating our foreign commerce and making and adjusting tariff duties.

Unless this trend is not only halted but reversed Congress will lose its constitutional function in this highly important field, and its responsibility to the people who elect members to that body will be destroyed.

For this reason we strongly oppose approval of H. R. 5550 which proposes United States membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation. We believe that it is imperative that Congress recapture and reassert its power and responsibility to legislate toward the regulation of our foreign commerce.

6. NEW ZEALAND LAMB

We are aware of the importation and experimental marketing of trial quantities of New Zealand frozen lamb chops and boned lamb roasts.

We urge our officers to be alert to the inherent dangers of this marketing test and be prepared to take such action as may become necessary and practical to counteract any invasion of our domestic market.

7. TARIFF ON MUTTON AND LAMB

We reaffirm our stand on import tariffs and ask that the present tariff of 2.5 cents on mutton and 3.5 cents on lamb be maintained.

8. NATION-WIDE COMMITTEE OF INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND LABOR ON IMPORT-EXPORT POLICY

We commend and offer our gratitude to the Nation-wide Committee of Industry, Agriculture and Labor on Import-Export Policy and to Mr. O. R. Strackbein as chairman for their very diligent work in keeping an eye on tariff matters in Washington.

9. TAXES

We recommend that Congress extend the involuntary conversion feature of the capital gains tax to livestock when sales of breeding stock have been forced by drought, and that this should be retroactive to include 1954 sales.

We support the proposal being currently considered by Congress for averaging income over a period of five years, which should be of benefit to ranchers and farmers.

We support the efforts of the National Live Stock Tax Committee, currently engaged in trying to secure the modification of some proposed regulations in depreciation which would restrict depreciation deductions and reduce possible capital gains on sale of livestock.

We commend the efforts of the National Live Stock Tax Committee in opposing the imposition of the Internal Revenue's interpretation of provisions contained in Revenue Ruling 55-188 relative to inventory basis for breeding livestock sold.

We appreciate the work of the National Live Stock Tax Committee and its attorney, Stephen H. Hart, and thank our friends in Congress and the Treasury Department for their cooperative endeavors the past year and urge that their commendable work be continued.

10. DROUGHT AID

Recognizing the critical situation existing in many areas of this country by reason of a long-continued disastrous drought which threatened the existence of the livestock industry, the Secretary of Agriculture, by direction of the President, set up a system of drought relief. In its original form it was a tremendous help in the maintenance of foundation flocks and herds in the sections affected, and worked satisfactorily.

The system of handling this aid to the industry has undergone a change in method of administration and has not proved as satisfactory or effective in accomplishing its fundamental purpose as the original system.

Therefore, we petition the Secretary of Agriculture to revise the present method of administration of this program and urge that sensible business methods be followed. We directed the Secretary of Agriculture's attention to (1) our severe criticism of the discriminatory factors inherent in the present method of administration of such program; (2) the 7-point program for change in drought relief procedure approved at our Executive Committee meeting in Yakima last summer.

11. RESEARCH

We recognize the importance of research on disease, wool, meat, feeding, breeding and management to the progress of our industry and to the public welfare. We appreciate the increase given in research funds and commend the work that has been done.

We recommend increased support for fundamental research by land-grant colleges and the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with each other and the experimental work conducted by private industry.

12. SHEEP DISEASES

We commend the Honorable Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, for calling a conference of sheep producers, livestock sanitary officials and other interested groups which met in Chicago, March 1, 1955, to discuss the sheep scabies problem and outline plans for its solution and also to consider other sheep disease problems.

We ask that the program set up be effected as fast as possible.

13. CALIFORNIA RANGE ASSOCIATION

We express our appreciation of the work being done in

the interests of the industry by the California Range Association through the importation of herders.

14. ENCROACHMENT ON RIGHTS

The Supreme Court of the United States in a decision in the Phillips Gas Case has established the principle that the Federal Government should fix and establish the price that a producer can legally pay to the land owner for gas produced from such owner's land and also to establish the price that a purchaser of such gas can legally pay to the producer at the well.

We believe this decision is fundamentally and dangerously wrong and strongly recommend to the Congress that appropriate legislation be enacted redefining the powers of the Federal Power Commission and, in such redefinition, to state clearly and firmly that neither agency nor any other agency of the Federal Government shall have the power to encroach upon the prerogatives and long-established practices of the respective States nor upon the intrinsic and inalienable rights of individual citizens, nor to fix prices in any competitive business.

15. BOND PURCHASES

We urge all of our members and all other citizens to purchase Series E and H Savings Bonds to the full extent of their financial ability and authorize our National officers and headquarters staff to cooperate with the U. S. Savings Bonds Division of the Treasury Department in a promotional program among all of its members and associates.

16. COMMENDATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

We commend the officers of the National Wool Growers Association for the excellent manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Association during the past year.

We further wish to extend our appreciation to the Women's Auxiliary for the effective support they are giving the sheep industry and for the educational program they are sponsoring to increase the demand for our wool and lamb products.

17. J. M. JONES

During the past year J. M. (Casey) Jones, former Executive Secretary-Treasurer of this organization, resigned after fifteen years of outstanding service to the industry to devote his time to other fields of interest. We wish to extend to him our regrets at his leaving and best wishes in his new endeavors.

18. RAY W. WILLOUGHBY

We wish to express our regrets that our esteemed Honorary President, Ray W. Willoughby, was unable to meet with us at our Fort Worth Convention and wish him a speedy recovery from his illness.

19. CONVENTION APPRECIATION

The 91st annual convention has been a most successful event. We wish to express our appreciation to all those who have contributed in any way to its success, especially to the F. W. Woolworth Company, the Singer Sewing Machine Company, the Pendleton Woolen Mills, Neiman-Marcus, the livestock interests of Fort Worth, Fort Worth Clearing House Association, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and the staff of the Hotel Texas.

We also appreciate the excellent coverage given us by the press, radio and TV stations.

20. IN MEMORIAM

We extend sympathy to the families of those members of the Association who have passed away since the last annual convention and at the same time express our appreciation for the cooperation of those deceased members in building up the Association.

We particularly pause in reverence and respect to the memory of our departed president, Wallace Ulmer of Montana, and our departed executive committeeman, Chandler Church of Nevada, who both made outstanding contributions to the Association and the sheep industry.

WOOL

21. INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ON LAMBS

The Wool Act of 1954 introduced an innovation in legislation as well as an entirely new method of marketing wool. A new method in an old industry must be ushered in with great care. It is essential that every means be taken to plan carefully the transition processes in order that our markets be disturbed as little as possible.

We believe that the one weakness in the new program of making incentive payments on wool is the revised method of making the "lamb payments," sometimes referred to as the "pulled wool payments." This new method was announced by the Department of Agriculture in its press release dated January 12, 1956.

We are opposed to this plan of making these payments. We believe it will disrupt the market for feeder lambs, as we are certain that the feeder buyer will reduce his offers for feeder lambs because he will not get what he feels is adequate payment for the wool.

We, therefore, urge the Department of Agriculture to rescind this latest regulation and revert to the method immediately preceding it—the one in effect for the 1955 clip.

22. FLAMMABLE FABRICS ACT

We recommend that the provisions of the Flammable Fabrics Act be extended to include all blankets.

23. WOOL STOCKPILE COMMITTEE

The special committee appointed from this Association to formulate a plan providing for the disposal of the CCC accumulations of wool called together representatives of all segments of the industry and formulated a recommendation for the disposal of these wools. This recommendation was unanimously adopted by all participating agencies and is largely the basis of the present policy for disposal of these wools. We commend this committee for its very effective and constructive work.

24. WOOL SELLING POLICY

We commend the Department of Agriculture for adhering to the policy of selling a limited amount of wool each month from the CCC accumulations and recommend that they continue it.

25. WOOL RESEARCH

We recommend to the Department of Agriculture that they spend more money on wool research as there are numerous fields directly related to the wool industry which are seriously in need thereof.

26. CARPET WOOL DUTIES

We call on our Representatives and Senators in Congress to oppose any change in the present statutes reg-

ulating the importation of carpet wools as unnecessary and a dangerous threat to the stability of the wool industry.

27. PARITY DETERMINATION

We reaffirm our contention that the wool industry should be considered separately from other agricultural endeavors and that a more realistic method of computing parity for wool be devised; that in arriving at parity the incentive payments be included and the various factors peculiar to the wool growing business also be taken into account.

28. WOOL FUTURES MARKET

We request that the Secretary of Agriculture investigate the operations of the grease wool futures market, or the wool top futures market in an effort to determine if these operations do or do not have a detrimental effect on the cash wool market.

29. FOREIGN WOOL ADVERTISING

We deplore advertising by some American firms implying the superiority of foreign wool or foreign wool products over our domestic wool or wool products.

30. SCOURABLE BRANDING FLUIDS

We commend the Department of Agriculture for its research into the scourability of branding fluids. We urge them to prosecute vigorously the development of a fluid that will scour out quickly and completely and at the same time have durability and that the results be made known at the earliest possible time.

31. WOOL PREPARATION

We recommend that aggressive campaigns be made in the States to inform all wool producers of the great need for better and more uniform preparation of wool as it is shorn.

32. WOOL PRODUCTS LABELING ACT

We strongly oppose any legislation which would remove the protection given by the Wool Products Labeling Act. This Act provides protection both for the wool producer and consuming public against misbranding and false advertising of the wool fiber content in textiles containing wool.

33. BUY-AMERICAN

We recommend that the provision in the Defense Appropriation Act requiring the use of domestic wool in all Government contracts be retained and if possible given permanent status.

34. THE WOOL BUREAU

We commend The Wool Bureau for its campaign to promote the use of wool in every possible facet of industry and recommend that they seek new and wider channels of use for this product.

35. WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

We commend the Women's Auxiliaries for their continually expanding work in promoting the use of wool. The increase in interest and participation in the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest and the "Miss Wool of Texas" program is a gratifying example of their efforts which annually contribute a great deal to the success of the industry. We suggest that the wool trade be invited to participate in these projects.

LAMB

36. STATE PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS

We urge that before any promotion campaigns are planned for a State by the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., the National Wool Growers Association directors of the ASPC from that region meet with a State committee of sheep interests to discuss promotion plans for that State.

37. LACK OF USDA CONSULTATION WITH NWGA

It is to be regretted that the U. S. Department of Agriculture saw fit to change regulations in payments on lambs under the National Wool Act before first consulting with the National Wool Growers Association.

38. THE 30-DAY OWNERSHIP CLAUSE

The 30-day ownership clause in the recent changes in regulations with regard to lamb payments under the Wool Act is confusing and is unnecessary. This Association requests that it be stricken from the regulation.

39. LAMB GRADING

We approve the suggestion made at the Lamb Grading Conference at Salt Lake City, Utah, July 29 and 30, 1955 and request that the Federal regulations for Choice grade of dressed lamb be changed to meet their suggestion:

"Carcasses possessing the minimum qualifications for the Choice grade are slightly compact with slightly plump, full legs; slightly wide, thick backs; slightly wide, full shoulders; and slightly short, thick necks.

"Evidences of quality and finish vary considerably with changes in maturity. Carcasses from young lambs that have red, narrow rib bones and red, moist, porous break joints have slightly abundant kidney and crotch fat but kidneys are slightly exposed, there is a slightly small amount of feathering between the ribs, a few streakings

of fat in the inside flank muscles, and only very small quantities of overflow fat over the inside of the ribs adjacent to the backbone. The color of lean can be slightly dark red. The exterior finish is moderately firm. However, the muscles of the back are very slightly visible through a slightly thin fat covering and those over the tops of the shoulders and outside of the legs have only a very thin covering of fat. Flanks are slightly full and firm and on freshly chilled lambs flanks can be moderately soft.

"Carcasses from more mature lambs that have slightly wide, moderately red rib bones with moderately red, rather dry and hard break joints, have moderately abundant kidney and crotch fat, a slight amount of feathering, a small amount of overflow fat over the inside of the ribs adjacent to the backbone, a small quantity of fat streakings in the inside flank muscles, and can have a slightly dark red color of lean. The external finish is firm and completely obscures the muscles of the back. However, muscles over the top of the shoulders and the outside of the legs are visible through the fat. The flanks are moderately full and firm and on freshly chilled lambs, flanks can be slightly soft.

"To qualify for the Choice grade a carcass must have the minimum requirements for quality and finish regardless of the extent that conformation may exceed the minimum requirements for Choice. However, if a carcass has quality and finish equivalent to at least the average of the Choice grade, its conformation may be equivalent to average Good and remain eligible for Choice."

40. SPECIAL LAMB PROMOTION

We commend the work of the Special Lamb Promotion and Research Committee and Cy Cress, the director of the lamb promotion campaign.

41. THANKS FOR COOPERATION

We acknowledge, with thanks and appreciation, the fine support which has been tendered the Special Lamb Promotion and Research Committee and the industry by the National Live Stock and Meat Board, the American Meat Institute, the National Association of Food Chains, the packers and all those national and local organizations that assisted in the carrying on of the activities of this committee.

42. COLLECTIONS FOR MEAT BOARD

We reaffirm our sincere appreciation to all commission firms, packers, independent buyers, and any other agencies who have cooperated in the collections for lamb promotion, and urge that they continue the collection of 50 cents per car for lamb promotion, in addition to 50 cents per car for the general work of the Meat Board, making the total collection on sheep and lambs \$1 per car.

43. MALPRACTICES AT PUBLIC MARKETS

We urge that the Packers and Stockyards Branch put forth more effort to investigate malpractices at public markets.

44. MARKET RESTRAINTS

We question the legality of restraints placed upon firms or individuals operating from the public livestock markets, restricting them from purchasing livestock in the country. We hold that this is an unnecessary curb on competitive buying and has resulted, and will continue to result in a much lower price and a much more restricted outlet for our livestock products.

45. RELIEF FOR MEAT PRODUCERS

We endorse the present effort within the Congress



—NWGA Photo

Discussing problems at the national convention were, from left to right, O. R. Strackbein, chairman of the Nation-Wide Committee of Industry, Agriculture and Labor on Import Export Policy; NWGA President J. H. Breckenridge; Mrs. C. Wayland Brooks of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Chicago, and J. B. Wilson, secretary, Wyoming Wool Growers Association.

directed toward the immediate relief for producers of meat. We are hopeful that this recognition of the distress within the meat industry will result in a program which will give a fair share of the national prosperity to the livestock business.

FEDERAL LANDS

46. STABILIZATION OF FOREST PERMITS

We reaffirm the necessity of stabilization of grazing rights on United States forest lands. We endorse the principles set forth in the original Hope-Aiken bill and urge the passage of a similar law which would definitely strengthen our tenure of use on these lands.

47. PUBLIC LAND WITHDRAWALS

We are opposed to all withdrawals of public lands which are now carrying grazing privileges. We request a public hearing be held in the States affected by such withdrawals and that careful investigation be made of the necessity of changing the use of these lands.

48. MINING LAWS

We recommend that the Federal mining laws be amended to allow a substantial interest to be given the land owners for all minerals, gas and oil taken from private land where mineral rights are reserved by the Government.

49. INCREASED PERSONNEL IN BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OFFICES

We are alarmed at the recommendations made by Director Edward Woolley's study team on the three representative grazing districts—Lakeview, Oregon; Billings, Montana; and Fillmore, Utah. This report recommends a re-staffing of district offices in excess of actual need and would result in either increased fees or increased Congressional appropriations.

We request Director Woolley to study carefully the work load of all district offices. We are opposed to the incurring of any additional expense which is not absolutely necessary.

50. TITLE III LANDS

We favor the maintaining of the present status of all Title III lands. Livestock operators who are now using many of these lands are not in a financial position at the present time to purchase them.

If Congress decides that the sale of these lands is necessary, we favor the general principles of H.R. 5088 and request that committee hearings on legislation affecting the disposal of all Title III lands be held in the States where these lands are located.

51. HOMESTEAD, DESERT ENTRY AND LAND EXCHANGES

We urge the Bureau of Land Management to investigate thoroughly all applications for desert and homestead entries to determine whether the land has a higher use than grazing. On applications which are granted, we urge strict compliance with the laws under which these lands are acquired.

We further recommend the careful analysis of all applications for sale or exchange of BLM grazing lands by both the Bureau officials and the Advisory Boards.

52. NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL

Control of noxious and poisonous plants is a fundamental principle of range improvement and range pres-

ervation. Halogeton and other noxious plants are destroying our range cover. We urge the Congress to appropriate substantial funds for research and eradication of these dangerous plants.

53. BLM ADVISORY BOARDS

We urge the Congress to provide the Bureau of Land Management with sufficient funds to encourage Advisory Board members to attend official meetings by reimbursing them for their expenses. Full recognition of these boards by the Bureau officials in the administration of the public lands will result in effective, cooperative management.

54. RANGE FORAGE RESEARCH

We request the Department of Agriculture to institute a vigorous research program on the development of new and improved varieties of range forage. A new species of grass which would increase the range crop as hybrid corn increased the corn production, would be of tremendous value to our industry.

TRANSPORTATION

55. REPEAL OF EXCISE TAXES

We ask members of Congress to repeal the three percent transportation tax as assessed on freight as well as the 10 percent excise tax on passenger fares. This wartime transportation tax is pyramided as much as two to three times before our lambs reach the consumer, thereby widening the spread between what the grower receives and what the user pays.

56. POSTING OF STOCKYARDS

Because services and facilities provided by the carriers at stockyards is an important part of the cost in movement of livestock, we again urge that all eligible livestock yards be posted.

We ask our National Wool Growers Association to ascertain the reason for the delay in posting any points as properly qualifying as railroad stockyards.

57. PRIVILEGED RATES

We recommend repeal of that portion of Section 22 of the Interstate Commerce Act which permits transportation free or at reduced rates in movement of Government traffic or commodities.

58. FEDERAL GASOLINE TAX

We approve the proposal as made by President Eisenhower and unanimously concurred in by the House Agriculture Committee for removal of the 2-cents-a-gallon Federal tax on gasoline used by farmers off-the-highways.

59. STATEMENT ON CLAIMS

We support passage of S. 2418 which will amend Section 20 (Par. 11) of the Interstate Commerce Act to provide reasonable attorney's fees in case of successfully maintained action for recovery of loss and damages sustained in rail transportation.

60. NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Rewriting of the National Transportation Policy as proposed in the Weeks Committee Report and set out in S. 1920 offers such great hazards to maintenance of equitable rate making, it is folly to consider acceptance of many of its provisions.

Passage of this Act would completely destroy the

Interstate Commerce Commission's effectiveness, its value as an authoritative judicial body, and would weaken and impede review of rate making procedures.

We, therefore, urge and direct the executive officers of our National Association to actively oppose this legislation.

61. THROUGH ROUTES AND JOINT RATES

We support repeal of the short-haul provision of Section 15 (Par. 4) of the Interstate Commerce Act. It has long and repeatedly been recommended by the ICC. Evidence of need has been demonstrated by carrier lines' refusing to establish through routes and joint rates to expedite the efficient movement of livestock.

62. RATE INCREASES

Increased rates granted rail carriers have not yielded railroads as much revenue from livestock traffic as prior to being applied but have only served to drive business from their lines. Any further increases as now proposed by the carriers will only widen that spread. Approximately 76 percent increase in livestock rates has been granted the carriers since 1946.

We oppose the recent appeal of the carriers for an additional 7 percent increase and direct our National officers to immediately advise the Interstate Commerce Commission as to our position and become active in opposing the increase.

63. HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

Some headway has been made to encourage adoption of more uniform highway lengths and weights of motor vehicles to expedite the interstate movement of livestock. We must continue our efforts and support legislation that will bring more uniformity which will aid in the use of highway transportation.

64. SANITARY REGULATIONS

There is evidence that in the movement of livestock via trucks interstate, some do not have as close supervision in respect to inspection for communicable and contagious diseases as desired and necessary to safeguard the welfare of our industry. We, therefore, suggest exploration of means to strengthen inspections.

65. TRAFFIC MANAGER

Without the expert counsel and the watching services of our Traffic Manager, Charles E. Blaine, his son Calvin and their efficient staff of experts, our industry would be greatly handicapped. This trained personnel is of importance to the industry and of vital need. We commend them for past care on our behalf and for being ever mindful of our interests.

We again point out the use of their services is available to members in the audit and check of freight bills and in adjustment of claims.

66. CARRIERS' SERVICE

It is a pleasure for those of our industry to work with and find a few sincere employees in transportation who are trying to assist in more rapid and efficient livestock service. To this group we express appreciation and only hope their members will increase.

Regrettably there does not seem to be the feeling nor the desire on the part of some in management or among

employees of carriers to hold livestock traffic. The lack of expedient handling, efficient equipment and close supervision is too often neglected.

This attitude can be corrected and we sincerely hope that better cooperation of carrier management in working for improved conditions will be inaugurated.

67. FREIGHT RATE STRUCTURES

We favor and support any effort to obtain rate reductions on livestock or the products thereof provided such reductions maintain a proper relationship. Any reductions in rates on products of livestock should be accompanied by a like reduction in the live rate, with each accorded equal proportionate adjustments to and from points of origin as well as to intermediate points.

It should be the continuing policy of our Association to do all possible to safeguard such relationships in order to preserve a free flow of livestock and its products and to maintain the greatest possible competition for the sale and distribution of livestock.

PREDATORY ANIMALS

68. METHODS OF CONTROL

We recommend that all methods of control of rodents and predators be employed.

69. INCREASED FUNDS

During the past years the cost of the predatory animal and rodent control program has increased and the appropriation for it decreased, thereby shifting the responsibility of maintaining the program to the operators. Therefore, your committee recommends that the executive officers of this Association contact the proper authorities in an effort to have the appropriation for predatory animal and rodent control made in an amount sufficient to meet the cost of the program.

We recommend that our executive officers investigate the possibility of having a portion of the grazing fees on sheep returned for predator and rodent control.

70. CONTROL ON FEDERAL WITHDRAWALS

We recommend that the possibilities of predator and rodent control on Federal withdrawals be investigated.

71. APPRECIATION

We wish to express our appreciation to the Fish and Wildlife Service for their efforts in the control of predatory animals and rodents.

We wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation given by local fish and game departments and any others contributing to this control program.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

General Resolutions.....H. S. Hibbard, Helena, Montana
Wool.....Penrose B. Metcalfe, San Angelo, Texas
Lamb.....Lloyd Avilla, Red Bluff, California
Federal Lands.....Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah
Transportation.....David Little, Emmett, Idaho
Predatory Animals.....M. V. Hatch, Panguitch, Utah

GENERAL CONVENTION REPORT

Breckenridge Continues as President Marsh Chosen Executive Secretary

J. H. Breckenridge, Twin Falls, Idaho, was elected president of the National Wool Growers Association at Fort Worth, Texas on January 26, 1956. He had been serving in that capacity on Executive Committee appointment since April 1955. He was the unanimous choice of the convention for the top NWGA position.

The proposed amendment to the NWGA constitution to reduce the number of vice presidents from five to one was lost when brought to a vote at the opening session (January 24). The four incumbents, Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah; Harold Josendal, Casper, Wyoming; Angus McIntosh, Las Animas, Colorado; Penrose B. Metcalfe, San Angelo, Texas were re-elected. David Little of Emmett, Idaho was made the fifth vice president. He is a former president of the Idaho Wool Growers Association and an active organization worker.

Edwin E. Marsh, assistant secretary of the NWGA from 1944 to October 31, 1955 and acting executive secretary-treasurer since then, received the unanimous endorsement of the Executive Committee in its final convention session for the position of executive secretary-treasurer.

Address of Welcome

An excellent keynote for any convention or group meeting was struck in the address of welcome by Brigadier General J. Earl Rudder, who serves Texas as Commissioner of the General Land Office.

"This meeting," General Rudder said, "offers a great opportunity to dissolve sectionalism in the industry, an opportunity to get together, to unite."

A World War II hero and the holder of many military decorations, General Rudder cautioned growers against too much dependence on the Federal Government for the solution of their problems. The wool marketing problem, he said, could not be solved by producers' remaining mute.

"Unless you sell yourself and your products to the public," he said, "they may be induced to accept inferior products because they are more fully advertised. . . . You should bind yourselves together at this meeting and determine to go forward and tell the Nation of your products. . . . You need to be imbued with a little bit of this Texas brag and tell the story of wool."

General Rudder's address included an outline history of the great State of Texas and revealed wide comprehension of the sheep industry and its difficulties.

McIntosh Responds

"The main objective of members of the sheep industry," Vice President Angus McIntosh said in responding to the address of welcome, "is to get better returns—but there are numerous ways to reach that goal. All of these must be considered in the sessions ahead. There will be differences of opinion but that is necessary to progress. We must study all sides in order to select the right road. The big thing to remember is that we are all interested in one end—to promote our products."

Mr. McIntosh paid tribute to the warm hospitality of the citizens of Fort Worth and other parts of Texas. He was particularly impressed, he said, with the way in which Fort Worth had combined its agricultural growth with industrial growth.

Opportunities available to sheepmen—opportunities for promotion and advertising, opportunities for basic research, for research in disease and animal nutrition, as well as some of the problems confronting them, formed the basis of President Breckenridge's excellent address (printed in full in this issue).

Mrs. Earl S. Wright, National Auxiliary president, spoke briefly of expanding activities of the women's group in wool and lamb promotion (statement printed in full).

Standing Ovation

If Rilea W. Doe actually wanted an answer to his question "Is It Worth Defending?" it came with the standing ovation given at the close of his address. For those who were not fortunate enough to hear him deliver this oration, it will be printed in full next month.

The convention was formally opened with an invocation by Rev. J. K. Thompson, Polytechnic Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, followed by a moment of silent tribute to Wallace Ulmer, late president of the National Wool Growers Association.

As previously stated, the proposed amendment to reduce the number of



TOP SPEAKER

—NWGA Photo

Texas Congressman W. R. Poage. His speech highlighted the last convention session. NWGA President Breckenridge listens.

NWGA vice presidents was defeated in the opening session. The amendment making membership in a State association a requirement for executive committee men and alternates was unanimously approved.

The NWGA's financial position as presented by Secretary Marsh is printed in full.

Keen Interest

While the official registration at the 91st NWGA convention, which ran from January 24 to 26, was just slightly above 300, the high attendance records at meetings and keenest interest in the program were the order of the day. The sessions began at 9 a.m. with good numbers present. The understanding of, and interest in industry objectives shown at committee sessions the first afternoon extended into the two panel sessions on wool and lamb on the second day's program.

The wool market panel, with Vice President Harold Josendal as moderator, began with a very comprehensive paper on wool research given by Dr. Gerald Laxer, technical director of The Wool Bureau. It dealt largely with expanding knowledge of the complexity and versatility of the wool fiber. It will be digested in future issues.

How the "coils of the python have been silently but thoroughly thrown around us" in the regulation of our foreign trade was forcefully shown by Chairman O. R. Strackbein of the Nation-wide Committee of Industry, Agriculture and Labor on Import-Export Policy. Step by step through the Trade Agreements Act, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the new proposal for acceptance of the Organization for Trade Cooperation (OTC), the usurpation of the power of Congress to regulate our foreign trade by the State Department was revealed.

Import Quota Bill

Mr. Strackbein also described the general import quota bill now before Congress as a method of dealing with import competition in a reasonable and liberal fashion in those instances where the tariff for one reason or another is relatively useless. One important feature of the bill, he said, was that an agency of Congress—the Tariff Commission—rather than the State Department or the White House would establish the quotas. In this way Con-

gress would recapture its constitutional authority and responsibility in direction of our trade policy.

An import quota that would limit importation of apparel fabrics made of or in chief value of wool in any one year to five percent of domestic production of such apparel fabrics in the immediate preceding year, on a square yard basis, and with present tariff rates remaining as they are, was advocated by Karl H. Helfrich, vice president of Forstmann Woolen Company as the

solution to the wool market problem from the point of view of his company.

Commends CCC Sales

James Stannard III, immediate past president of the Boston Wool Trade Association declared that the meeting of all segments of the industry to consider plans for the selling policy to be followed in the disposal of the CCC stockpile was a most commendable affair because of its unity of thinking. "I came away from it," he said, "hoping that it was only a beginning. There is an increasing need for cooperation between all parts of the industry."

Mr. Stannard spoke of changes in the industry—changes in the buyers themselves. He called specific attention to the new roll of the topmaker as a dealer and the demise of some wool dealers.

"We all know," he said, "of the great casualties in wool and worsted manufacturing. We have also had casualties in wool dealers." He felt sure, however, there would be a resurgence in the wool merchandising field of the wool dealer. "It will be good for you because it will offer you many more outlets in the sale of your wool." The great threat from Japanese-made fabrics was not minimized in any way by Mr. Stannard. The story, he said, could be told simply by stating that Japan had access to the same machinery as U. S. manufacturers. But the machine is run by an operator in this country at \$1.50 per hour and in Japan at 12 cents an hour.

Mr. Stannard personally complimented the U. S. Department of Agriculture on the merchandising job it was doing in the moving of the wool stockpile thus far.

Wool Grades and Standards

Proposed wool grades and standards were outlined by Dr. Elroy M. Pohle. This work is being done at the Livestock Division Wool Laboratory of the USDA at Denver and Dr. Pohle is in charge of the laboratory. The material given by Dr. Pohle will be covered in future issues.

Julien Arrien, president of the Oregon Wool Growers Association, presided over the meeting devoted to discussing the lamb market. G. N. Winder followed an opening session lamb film with his address (printed in full in this issue) on the activities of the American Sheep Producers Council.

J. C. Pierce, Jr., told of the value that Federal grading has for both livestockmen and consumers of meat. Pierce, who is head of the USDA's Standardization and Grading Branch, said that livestock interests should promote the Federal grade of "Good" as well as Choice. "There is nothing magic to the term 'Choice,'" Pierce stated.



MEMBERS OF THE PANEL discussing wool and wool problems at the 91st annual NWGA convention are pictured above. NWGA Vice President Harold Josendal acted as moderator.



LAMB PANEL MEMBERS are pictured above standing behind their name cards. Garland Russell, Swift and Company, left the meeting before the picture was taken. Julian Arrien, president of the Oregon Wool Growers Association, moderated.

Palatability Studies

Studies are now under way by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the USDA to find out palatability relationships of different age groups of lambs, according to A. M. S. lamb panel member R. M. Walsh. Walsh stated that over 80 percent of the lamb consumption has been in nine States and that there are too many low consuming States.

"Swift and Company is opposed to Federal grading," according to Garland Russell, panel representative from that company. Standardization of any product is not good for merchandising, for consumers or growers, Russell said. He also urged growers to supply lambs more evenly to packers so that dependable supplies could be furnished to their retail outlets.

The USDA's position on the incentive payments on lamb under the Wool Act was explained and discussed by Brett Gray, Commodity Stabilization Service representative on the panel. Mr. Gray stated that too many administrative problems and inequitable incentive payments to small growers brought about the recent change in the incentive program on lambs.

Headline Speaker

Convention headline speaker was Hon. W. R. Poage, who represents the 11th district of Texas in the House of Representatives. The only speaker at the final session, he held the audience at closest attention as he told of the need for water conservation and legislation for that purpose (future NATIONAL WOOL GROWER printing scheduled).

Differences of opinion requiring convention decision arose on three resolutions. Objection was raised to the resolution in the Wool Committee's report calling upon the USDA to rescind its recently announced regulation on pulled wool payments. The resolution was retained, however, on a vote of 340 to 249. (In convention voting, each State is allowed one membership vote, plus a vote for every \$100 or major fraction thereof paid for the support of the Association for the preceding year).

The other difference of opinion was in connection with the use of funds of the American Sheep Producers Council in lamb and wool promotion. The Wool Committee called for the allocation of 55 percent of the funds for lamb promotion and 45 percent for wool, while 70 percent for lamb and 30 percent for wool was asked by the Lamb Committee. Both resolutions were eliminated by majority convention votes.

Convention fun—and there was a lot of it—is covered in separate stories. Texas hospitality was abundant. The Fort Worth Clearing House Association and the livestock interests went all the way out in hosting several very enjoyable social affairs. And the Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel Texas cooperated fully in seeing that the convention ran smoothly. The awarding



DR. GERALD LAXER

Technical Director of The Wool Bureau. He explained some of the research problems attached to the complex wool fiber.

of attendance prizes also added a little spice to the meetings.

Plans are now being made for the 92nd annual meeting of the NWGA. Las Vegas, Nevada is the site and January 20 to 24, 1957, the time. The mid-summer meeting of the executive committee will be held at Helena, Montana July 17-18, 1956.



—NWGA Photos

FATHER AND SON

Newly elected director to The Wool Bureau from the American Wool Council is E. S. Mayer, shown above with his son, Ralph. The Mayers reside in Sonora, Texas.

1955 NWGA Financial Report

Made before the 91st National Convention by Executive Secretary Treasurer E. E. Marsh.

THE financial report will not go into detail but detailed statements are available to members. Also the audit by Wells, Baxter and Miller, certified public accountants, is available for inspection.

First of all, as of this moment, 99.5 percent of the quotas established by our Executive Committee for the various States affiliated with our National Association have been met. As of this moment 11 of our 12 affiliated States have paid 100 percent of their quotas. They are: California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Arizona has met 72 percent of its quota. Total quotas to be met by the States for the regular work of the National for our 1954-1955 fiscal year were \$60,000 and of this amount \$59,706 has been paid to date. Additional income for the year consisted of \$40 received from other States and Canada; \$150 interest from bonds; miscellaneous income, \$5.08; net earnings on the National Ram Sale of \$5,174.10; and \$8,489.90 paid on the previous year's quotas, or total receipts as of this date of \$73,565.08. Disbursements

for the fiscal year totaled \$70,402.45, so that excess of receipts over disbursements as of this date total \$3,162.63.

As some of you know, our fiscal year closes October 31 and figures shown on our statement are as of that date. Our convention comes considerably later this year and where I feel it is advisable to do so, I am also going to give you the status of the financial picture as of the present date, which will make the report more current and valuable.

A breakdown of expenses shows that your Association bore \$33,603.45 of the Salt Lake Office, Organization and Convention costs during the fiscal year ending October 31. Other expenses of the past fiscal year include \$5,596.34 balance due and authorized to be paid to Robert Franklin for work on wool legislation; Washington expense of \$3,841.86; \$3,256.49 for freight rate work; \$235.10 for lamb marketing (outside of our lamb promotion work); \$207.41 for public lands; \$311.81 for vibriosis; and \$1500 as a contribution to The Nationwide Committee of Industry, Agriculture and Labor on Import-Export Policy. (That is the tariff work of Mr. O. R. Strackbein's

group). A total of \$21,849.99 was expended by the Association to our publishing company for member subscriptions to the magazine; therefore, total expenditures of your Association for the fiscal year ending October 31 were \$70,402.45.

Cash available to your Association at the end of the fiscal year, October 31, amounted to \$26,432.35. As of January 16, cash available was \$33,303.78. Of course, this amount has to carry us over during the first half of the year before much in the way of quota payments and other income reach our treasury.

Now, in addition to the above activities we have been carrying on a lamb promotion and research program for which \$25,000 was budgeted for the past fiscal year to be met by the States. Up to this date the States have met \$12,448, or 50 percent of this \$25,000 quota. Cash on hand in the lamb promotion fund as of October 31, 1955 was \$10,476.76. Cash in this fund as of January 16 is \$6,137.78. However, the present campaign in the Missouri Basin States is expected to lower this cash to approximately \$1500 by February 1, and, of course, lamb promotion work is now in the process of being taken over by the ASPC.

Expenditures from our special lamb promotion fund in the National Livestock and Meat Board for the past fiscal year totaled \$11,704.15. This was used mostly for printed material—posters and recipe booklets—for our special lamb promotion campaign. At the close of our fiscal year October 31, there was \$27,221.18 in that fund. As of January 4, there was \$22,004.69 in this fund but it is anticipated that most of this fund will soon be used for research and promotion plans in cooperation with the American Sheep Producers Council. We certainly want to thank those commission firms and packer friends who have assisted in the collection of this special fund during the past year. That completes the financial report.

Prize drawings spark Convention interest

INTEREST at the 91st annual National Wool Growers Association convention was stimulated by prize drawings held during the general convention sessions.

Cooperating firms gave prizes to those who were lucky winners at the convention. Names of winners and the prizes they won follow:

- Mrs. Mary Cato Swayne, Miles City, Montana, won an all-wool overcoat given by The Wool Bureau, Inc.

- Charles Stratton, Rawlins, Wyoming, won a pair of boots made espe-



A convention prize . . .

cially for the National Wool Growers Association by the Nocona Boot Company, Nocona, Texas.

- A. K. Mackey, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, won a gift certificate for a pair of all-wool slacks from the Haggar Slack Company of Dallas, Texas.

- Two all-wool blankets given by the Pendleton Woolen Mills of Portland, Oregon, were won by J. P. Murdoch, Heber City, Utah, and George Bailey, Walden, Colorado.

- The Wool Bureau also gave some "Nothing Measures Up to Wool" jigger glasses which were drawn for during the convention sessions.

Convention drawings were such a success that this activity promises to be an annual affair.

Social activities were many at convention

THOSE who attended the 91st annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association in Fort Worth can now really say they've had a taste of Texas hospitality.

Different Texas groups sponsored some very enjoyable social functions during the convention. A get-acquainted hour was sponsored by the livestock interests of Fort Worth on Monday, January 23. The Fort Worth livestock interests had earlier (Sunday) given a special dinner for the executive committee of the National Wool Growers Association.

A well-attended cocktail hour was given for all attending the convention on Tuesday, January 24. Hosts for this function were the Fort Worth Clearing House Association. The cocktail get-together was held in the Hotel Texas' beautiful Silver Lounge on the 14th floor.

Thirty of the Nation's best young seamstresses, State winners in the "Make It Yourself With Wool" Contest, modeled their apparel to a capacity

house on Wednesday evening, January 25. The Crystal Ballroom on the top of the Hotel Texas set the scene for the well-planned fashion show which included the appearance of Miss Wool modeling her all-wool wardrobe.

Plans for this annual contest are handled by the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association and The Wool Bureau of New York City.

Highlight of convention social activities was on Thursday, January 26, when a large crowd enjoyed a social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Silver Lounge at the Hotel Texas. A delicious dinner of lamb rack was later served at the banquet in the Crystal Ballroom.

Convention-goers were well entertained later in the evening by a floor show which included the dancing of NWGA President J. H. Breckenridge, Jerry Sotola of Armour and Company, J. B. McCord, president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers, and J. S. Farmer of Junction, Texas. These men were called from the audience to perform different types of dances with the Joan Frank chorus girls. President Breckenridge was awarded the top honors by the tremendous audience response for his performance of the Charleston.



Mrs. Marion Barkhurst of Saratoga, Wyoming, producer of the grand champion lamb at the National Western Stock Show held in Denver, joins with G. N. Winder, president of the American Sheep Producers Council, in delivering the blue ribbon lamb to United Air Lines Stewardess Sidney Mumford, for delivery to Arlene Francis of television fame in New York. Kit Kinne, food editor on Miss Francis' Home Show displayed lamb cuts on a nationwide television broadcast on January 17. She also discussed recipes and methods of cooking lamb.

American Wool Council Report

W. H. STEIWER REELECTED

W. H. Steiwer of Fossil, Oregon was continued by unanimous vote as president of the American Wool Council for the ensuing year. Unanimous votes were also cast for J. K. Sexton, Willows, California as vice president and Edwin E. Marsh, Salt Lake City, as executive secretary-treasurer.

Deep regret was in evidence, however, when the name of S. L. (Steve) Stumberg of Sanderson, Texas was submitted for re-election as a director of The Wool Bureau for the coming year, and he announced his inability to serve on account of ill health. Mr. Stumberg has been chairman of the board of directors of The Wool Bureau since June, 1955. His election to that position followed five years of service as a director to The Wool Bureau from the American Wool Council and many years before that as the representative from Texas on the AWC Council of Directors.

New Director

Edwin S. Mayer, Sr. of Sonora, Texas was selected as a new director to The Wool Bureau. The other directors of the AWC to The Wool Bureau are the presidents of the American Wool Council and the National Wool Growers Association.

President Steiwer's report was mainly concerned with the present plan under which the American Sheep Producers Council is to allocate funds to the American Wool Council as the wool growers' share of the AWC's quota to be raised for wool promotion and advertising. This replaces the former 10-cents-a-bag collection by wool dealers from growers for this promotion work. It is understood that packers and manufacturers will still contribute to the American Wool Council in the same manner as previously.

Schmitt Speaks

A continued high level of consumer purchasing power and the steadily growing U. S. population make 1956 "a year of opportunity" for the wool growing industry, Max F. Schmitt, president of The Wool Bureau, New York, told the Council of Directors.

Wool's market includes every man, woman and child in the United States, Mr. Schmitt stated, and the fact that there will be more people with greater

buying power should make welcome news for the entire wool industry.

There are already indications of a sharp increase in wool demand, he added. Total wool consumption during the first ten months of 1955 was 8 percent above the previous year, and the production of woven wool fabrics for men's and boys' wear during the first nine months of the year was 25 percent ahead of the first nine months of 1954. Wool fabrics for women's and children's wear were reported 12 percent ahead of 1954 in the same period.

With the expanding teen-age market bringing millions of new apparel customers each year, and the demand for sports and travel clothes constantly rising, the opportunities for sales of wool are vast, Mr. Schmitt asserted.

Even greater encouragement may be derived, he declared, from the wool growing industry's increasing awareness of the need for promotion to maintain long-range consumer demand and appreciation for wool. Although competitive fibers currently spend from seven to ten times as much on promotion as is spent on wool, the wool industry is awakening to the need for greater efforts.

Wool promotion is already reaching millions of Americans of all ages, Mr. Schmitt reported. Industry-wide promotion and advertising efforts have sharply increased, and the slogan "Nothing Measures up to Wool," adopted by industry groups in the spring of 1954, is being used across the Nation in

(Continued on page 37.)

Gale Smith Appointed By Advertising Agency

GALE D. Smith, well known in Intermountain livestock circles, has been appointed merchandising director for the American Sheep Producers Council through the Botsford, Constantine and Gardner Advertising Agency of San Francisco. Mr. Smith is in the employ of the advertising agency.

In his new position, Mr. Smith will be in charge of the various area and local promotions throughout the country.

The new job is one with which Gale Smith has had much experience. For the

last eight years he has been public relations director for the Producers Livestock Marketing Association and has handled several very successful lamb promotion campaigns.

Gale has been a lifetime resident of Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah. From 1925 to 1932 he was affiliated with the accounting department of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. In the fall of 1932 he joined the staff of the Utah Wool Marketing Association as a wool solicitor, where he stayed until July of 1946. At that time he joined the Producers Livestock Marketing Association at Ogden, Utah as a member of its sheep department. He was later transferred to Salt Lake City where he stayed until



GALE D. SMITH

He's promoting lamb.

he joined Botsford, Constantine and Gardner on the first of January, 1956.

While with Producers, Gale directed and supervised the test lamb promotion sponsored by that company in the Salt Lake, Ogden and Provo, Utah areas during the fall of 1954. This promotion had outstanding success, with lamb consumption in the test area being raised 54 1/4 percent. In the early part of 1955, he also directed the Imperial Valley (California) lamb campaign.

Gale is well-known for his civic and sporting world activities. For many years he officiated high school and college football and basketball games in the Intermountain area. He was an active member of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce on the livestock and civic improvement committees, and for several years he was chairman of the sales committee for the Intermountain Fat Stock Show.

He and his wife and their 10-year-old daughter will make their home in Denver later this year. They have one 20-year-old son who is now in aviation cadet school for jet pilots.

President Breckenridge Reports

Made at the
National Wool Growers Association 91st
Annual Convention, Fort Worth, Texas
January 24, 1956

I should like to discuss with you briefly this morning some of the opportunities which I believe lie ahead for those of us who are engaged in the sheep business. I believe I am particularly fortunate to have the honor of being president of the National Wool Growers Association during a year in which we have availed ourselves of what I believe to be one of our greatest opportunities. I am speaking of the organization of the American Sheep Producers Council.

Now, the formation of another organization is nothing particularly startling in itself, but through the American Sheep Producers Council we sheepmen have what may be the opportunity of a lifetime to promote our products. When in the history of the sheep industry have we producers of lamb and wool ever been given the privilege of assessing ourselves approximately two million dollars a year to improve our marketing picture? In the past when other fibers have nibbled away at our wool market, we have, for the most part, sat around and moaned and wished it hadn't happened. Today we are in a position to do something about it. We are out to tell the American public that wool is still the "sterling silver" of the fiber family, and I believe that the American public will react to that story by buying more wool.

For years whenever an extra carload of lambs came to market, it was sent into one of the high consuming areas, and what happened? Well, if the market didn't break, it at least bent badly. Today we have the opportunity to widen the distribution demand for our lamb, and I believe to help ourselves almost unbelievably. We know that 44 percent of our population consumes only 15 percent of our lamb production so the field is wide open for the widening of distribution, and we have availed ourselves of the vehicle to do just that.

Livestock Research

There is another opportunity which is knocking at our economic door. It probably can't bring us very quick results, but certainly without it we can not progress. I am speaking of the fundamental research on animal nutrition and livestock disease that is under way at the present time and contemplated for the future.

Relatively speaking, we are only just beginning in this field. In almost every area where we operate our sheep, there is some land which lends itself to the production of better forage, both volume-wise and nutrition-wise. In my opinion, it is up to us to invest in the future by developing these lands to their fullest extent. To be sure, it takes time. It can't be done over night. It takes money. And it takes work. But, if we can make two blades of good grass grow where but one grew before,—and in hundreds of instances it has been proved that we can,—then it is an opportunity we can not afford to pass.

New chemicals and minerals are being developed that it is up to us to use wherever we can make our operation more efficient. Modern research has brought forth such things as antibiotics, phenothiazine, phosphorus deficiencies, cobalt deficiencies, to name just a few. We can't all use all of them, but surely most of us can use some of them to make a better lamb and more and better wool.

Our annual loss from sheep diseases is tremendous, but here again, modern research is helping us. Veterinary medicine has come a long ways in the past few years. We can take advantage of the sulfas, penicillin and the antibiotics to cure a lot of the ills of the sheep that only a short time ago resulted in fatality. But again let me emphasize that we are only just beginning, and if we are to remain on the economic map as an industry, our efforts must be intensified many fold.

Through our combined efforts in the National Wool Growers Association, together with the affiliated State organizations, we are making some progress in research on vibronic abortion. We are looking at the scabies situation and making realistic efforts toward its complete eradication. Such diseases as blue tongue and sore mouth are being vigorously attacked and research indicates that we can prevent them and possibly even eliminate them.

The Sky's the Limit

But we can not, and I am sure, we will not stop here. We have too many other goals to reach. The fundamental research that is being done on the wool fiber is only just beginning. We know something about shrink-proofing. We know a little about moth-proofing. We are finding new ways of scouring wool. We are finding out a little bit about the basic chemistry of wool. But here again the sky

is the limit in the number of opportunities for advancement.

There is another door of opportunity that may be opened to us. Slowly, but I think surely, the number of people who believe that the American market should be filled by domestic industry insofar as we are capable of filling it, is increasing. You all are well aware that the Trade Agreements Act passed both houses of Congress last year by a very small margin. Wool growers, of course, have favored an adequate tariff throughout the years. It has been our stand for over 90 years and it is still our stand today. I would be very much surprised, and I might add disappointed, if you people changed that stand during this convention.

As I say, those of us who believe in adequate protection for domestic industry are increasing in number. There is a strong move under way at the present time to ask the Congress to pass a bill to establish import quotas where it can be proved that an industry is being injured by foreign importations. Those of us who are engaged in the wool growing and wool manufacturing industries know what importations from low-cost production countries are doing to our markets. It would be my judgment that those of us who work in and who manage both the growing and manufacturing segments of the wool industry should join forces with other industries, such as the cotton industry and the fish industry, to ask the Congress to pass a fair kind of quota legislation.

Forest Grazing Bill

Another opportunity which appears to me to be open to us, legislatively, is that the forest grazing bill sponsored by the Administration may well pass the Congress this year. While this legislation is not an answer to all of our grazing problems, and certainly it will not be of any importance to you growers here in the State of Texas, it will certainly be a help to those of us who graze in the public land States in that it recognizes grazing as one of the proper functions of forest management. It will also give those of us with permits on the national forests an incentive to enhance the value of the grazing there with the construction of improvements for which we would be compensated should the land be taken for a higher use.

These are some of the opportunities which in my judgment lie ahead of us. I do not wish to appear "Pollyanna" about the condition of the sheep industry today, and I might properly be accused of hiding my head in the sand if I did not mention some of the problems which confront sheepmen today. We know that there is a move underway to scuttle our Wool Products Labeling Act. This measure was passed after

many years of tremendous efforts by the National and State wool growers' associations. It has been a great asset not only to the wool industry, but to the consuming public as a whole. The National Retail Dry Goods Association has been successful in having introduced in Congress, legislation which would repeal the Wool Labeling Act. I would recommend that we vigorously oppose these efforts by the National Retail Dry Goods Association and equally as vigorously support legislation introduced which would retain the Wool Products Labeling Act and extend product labeling to other fiber materials.

Takes Away Control

The Administration has recommended to the Congress that it recognize the so-called Organization for Trade Cooperation. This is a bad one! It would take out of the hands of the Congress and our Government the power to control commerce, placing this power in an international authority with the United States having only one vote. Think what this would do to our already weakened tariff protection!

The Carpet Institute wants to remove all tariffs on all grades of wool used in the manufacture of carpets, whether or not the same grades of wool are grown in the United States. At present only wools not finer than 40's are permitted duty-free entry for carpet manufacture, and I would think we must oppose this one.

Then there is the Customs Simplification Bill. It has already passed the House of Representatives and is now in the Senate Finance Committee. Passage of this measure would further weaken our tariff structure, so we have got to fight that one.

We have in our specifications for lamb grading what to me is another serious problem which affects each and everyone of us. Many lambs which are actually very good eating are being downgraded because of age, and the age at which that lamb is being downgraded seems to be getting younger and younger. It would seem to me that when writing specifications for meat grading, the thought uppermost in everybody's mind should be "What kind of meat makes the best eating?" and "What does the housewife want?" and then put that kind of meat in the best grade. Age and the amount of fat on the animal may or may not have anything to do with it. If Government grading of lamb is going to mean anything,—and it certainly should be continued only if it does mean something,—then the specifications must surely be changed so that they more accurately reflect in grades, the type of meat that is good eating and the type that the housewife wants.

After 15 Year's Service

I have not felt that it was proper to take time to discuss all of the opportunities and problems of the wool growing industry. I have chosen only those which to me are the most important. There is another matter which I believe I would be remiss if I did not touch upon. As you all know, after 15 years of service, Casey Jones resigned as executive secretary of the National Wool Growers Association effective October 31, 1955. Since that time Ed Marsh has been very ably serving as acting executive secretary. Casey in the years that he worked for the National Wool Growers established for himself the reputation of being a tremendously hard worker. I am sure that I can truthfully say that there is not a lazy bone in Casey's body. He is very adept at analyzing a situation and preparing a brief on a given problem. He was very careful about the matter of keeping office records and bookkeeping, and I am sure that the files and records in the office will show that. Those of us in the National Wool Growers Association will certainly miss Casey's seriousness of purpose and his industriousness. As you all also know, he is now the executive secretary of the American Sheep Producers Council. So, of course, he has not entirely divorced himself from the sheep industry.

We have been talking about opportunities—opportunities for promotion and

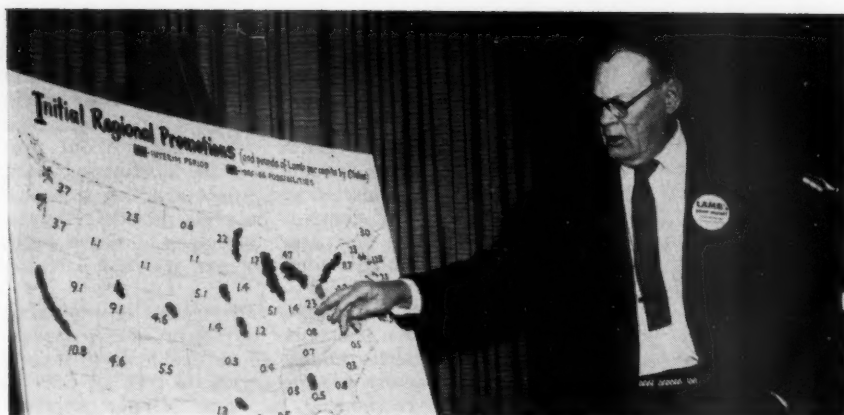
advertising; opportunities for basic research, for research in disease and animal nutrition. We have been talking about opportunities with the grazing bill and opportunities with quota legislation. Then we've talked about problems—problems of the labeling act; tariff problems and lamb grading problems. The question naturally arises "How can we best avail ourselves of these opportunities and how can we best solve our problems?"

I think we can be sure of one thing. We will avail ourselves of no opportunities and solve no problems if individually we are trying to pull all four directions at one time. Opportunity will come to us only if we are all pulling together in a collective dynamic effort.

And what vehicle shall we use for this combined effort? It is my opinion that the best ones available to us now or at any time in the foreseeable future are your State and National wool growers' associations. Many of you have come many miles to attend this meeting. There will never be a better time to help formulate the plans and make the program of the wool grower's associations than starting right now. This meeting belongs not to any one of us, but to all of us. We can achieve our goals only if all of us here now put our collective shoulders to the wheel. In the coming days, may God grant us the wisdom to see the right path and the courage to follow it.



The "Lamb's Your Meat" exhibit attracted great interest at the National Western Stock Show held during the week of January 16-21 in Denver and at the National convention in Fort Worth. Sponsored by the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., the exhibit displayed full color illuminated transparencies of lamb dishes, as well as a chart describing the various lamb cuts, and recipe folders for visitors at the booth. At right, above, is Hildegard K. Johnson, field home economist with Botsford, Constantine & Gardner who designed the exhibit.



National convention speech

The ASPC is Beginning to Roll

by G. N. WINDER
President, American Sheep Producers
Council, Inc.
Delivered before 91st annual NWGA
convention

THE ASPC's lamb promotion program has begun to roll. Your industry's effort to help itself is under way.

The poor pattern of distribution and consumption of lamb was one of the major problems taken into account when the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., set up its first lamb promotion campaign.

It has been established that a major part of all lamb is consumed in a relatively small area. In fact, 70 percent of the lamb is consumed in six States (New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey and California), representing only about 36 percent of the population. This leaves the remaining 42 States, with 64 percent of the population, consuming only about 30 percent of the lamb.

This situation presents many problems as to how best to develop a line of attack. It also presents a tremendous potential for broadening our market.

Because of this situation, and as a means of obtaining valuable information, we determined that our initial approach should be on a regional basis. Denver was chosen for the first effort. For several years past, local interests have conducted some promotional campaigns there at the time of the National Western Stock Show. Denver is also "home base" for the ASPC; and, in addition, Colorado has the greatest number of fed lambs.

The same general pattern will be followed in all of our regional promotions. There will be about two weeks of pre-campaign planning, merchandising and publicity, followed by an intensive advertising and publicity campaign during which all types of available media will be used for advertising. Packers and retailers will be furnished point-of-purchase material to be used in the stores; mats and advertising copy will be furnished so that the stores can tie their ads in with ours. The papers, and radio and TV stations, will be furnished material for publicity releases, etc. I will describe the procedure followed in Denver and, in general, it will apply to other regional programs. Of course, local conditions may alter some phases.

The financing of the Council for its work of promotion and advertising of both wool and lamb is secured by a deduction from the producer's incentive payment under the National Wool Act of 1954, in accordance with the Agreement with Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson and the favorable acceptance of this program by 72 percent of the growers voting in a referendum held last summer.

The deduction to be made from the producer's 1955 incentive payment is on the basis of 1 cent per pound of wool produced and 5 cents per 100 pounds of lamb slaughtered. It is estimated that this deduction will produce between two and two-and-one-half million dollars from the 1955 wool clip. These funds will not be available to the Council until sometime in the summer of 1956.

Because of the desire of the members of the Board of Directors, and the ex-

treme need for assistance to the industry, a line of credit has been secured pending receipt of grower funds from the 1955 wool clip.

An Administrative Budget covering expenses of the Board of Directors, office, staff salaries, travel, supplies, furniture, and fixtures, and other miscellaneous expenses, in the amount of \$68,939, and \$346,061 for lamb and wool programs, a total of \$415,000 for the interim period, has been approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition, thanks to our National Wool Growers Association, \$16,500 has been authorized from the Lamb Funds held by the National Live Stock and Meat Board for a motivational research program. This will cover consumers as to why they do or do not eat lamb, and also why retailers merchandise lamb or do not merchandise it.

Advertising Agency

The firm of Botsford, Constantine & Gardner, with offices in San Francisco, New York, Portland and Seattle, has been selected to carry on the advertising activities for lamb, and we plan to carry on our wool advertising through the American Wool Council and The Wool Bureau.

The United States Department of Agriculture has been most helpful in carrying on market surveys and analyses with respect to our lamb and wool problems. These surveys might be listed under three heads—1) Acceptance of lamb by the consumer; 2) Availability of lamb in retail stores, and 3) the distributive channels for lamb.

Due to the poor distribution of lamb, we feel that we must approach the problem area-by-area so as to try to correct the present distribution pattern.

We recognize that in order to accomplish our aims we must have the full and wholehearted cooperation of the packing industry and all segments of the retail trade, and that will be one of our first objectives, to contact and enlist the cooperation of all of these groups. We also expect to make full use of the facilities of the National Live Stock and Meat Board and The Wool Bureau.

We hope to have available package programs together with reserve funds so that on short notice we can move into almost any area and supplement any effort that is being done locally or in case an emergency arises, always keeping in mind that we must not neglect our present important consumption areas.

I do want to impress on you that results will be slow to come about. We are just now organized and, of necessity, our plans are rather nebulous and

we must proceed with some caution, and due to the fact that until next summer our funds are limited, we cannot embark upon any full-scale program.

It is my thought that we have two obligations: One is to try to get 100 cents in value for every \$1 spent, but we are also obligated to proceed as fast as is consistent with the first obligation, and I am sure that will be our policy.

ASPC Can't Replace NWGA

I want to make it clear that the American Sheep Producers Council is organized for one purpose only, and that is to advertise and promote the use of wool and lamb. We could not—and do not want in any way to—take the place of the already existing organizations such as the State and National Wool Growers Associations. I surely hope that growers do not take the attitude that they no longer need to support the State and National Associations. Our need is even greater at this time to maintain strong associations.

Through the American Sheep Producers Council we have a golden opportunity to improve our situation through advertising and promotion. Through our State and National Associations we have opportunities to improve the condition of the industry by other means, so let us continue our support and enlist our neighbor's support.

I now would like to give you the most recent developments with respect to our plans which resulted from the meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Sheep Producers Council at Denver December 12-13 in which they adopted an initial program for advertising and promotion of wool and lamb for the period January 1 through June 30, 1956, looking toward materially expanded programs for the following fiscal year.

On January 4 Mr. Gale Smith, the merchandising man employed by Botsford, Constantine & Gardner, arrived in Denver and made contacts with packers, retailers and representatives of the newspapers, radio and TV stations, and others. Mrs. Ella Nisja, home economist for BC&G, was also making contacts with home economists, nutritionists and food page editors. Meanwhile the various material was being accumulated that would be necessary when the campaign got under way.

Denver Program

On January 10 a "LAMB'S YOUR MEAT" luncheon was served at the Chamber of Commerce. About 250 invitations were sent out to packers, retailers, press, radio and TV, home economists, nutritionists, and other

interested groups. There were 109 in attendance at the luncheon. At this time the officers of the ASPC, together with the Account Executive, John Leahy; Gale Smith, the merchandising man; and Mrs. Nisja, home economist, outlined the plans for the advertising and promotion campaign. Charts were used to illustrate the plans and material to be used. As the guests left after lunch, each received a kit in which was enclosed a sample of the material available with instructions as to how more material could be obtained. By now the actual advertising has started. It is too soon to know any results, but I will say this—that we have had enthusiastic support and co-operation from all segments.

One very interesting and valuable bit of publicity in conjunction with the Denver program was the lamb on a nation-wide TV program. We secured a champion lamb from the Stock Show, had it slaughtered in Denver and shipped via United Air Lines to New York. The following day that lamb was on the Arlene Frances HOME Show. Various lamb cuts were displayed and the various cookery methods were demonstrated. A full nine-minute segment of the show was devoted to lamb. If we had bought such time on that show it would have cost over \$77,000! In addition, we secured considerable publicity through the Stock Show and the United Air Lines.

The advertising program started on January 18th and will continue through February. At the end of the intensive campaign the program will not be

dropped like a "hot potato" but we expect to continue on a sustaining basis, with added emphasis again during September and October.

Other Area Promotions

In addition to the Denver program it is planned to conduct area promotions in Birmingham from the middle of March through April; the California Valleys (including Sacramento and a part of the Bay region) from the middle of April through May; Texas (Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston) through May and June; Cleveland, Ohio the first of June to the middle of July with extra emphasis and an expanded program again in September and October.

In addition to these planned programs, we have agreed to cooperate with the National Wool Growers Lamb Promotion Committee program now in progress in the Missouri Valley. This program was submitted to us too late for approval of the entire program, but we agreed to furnish advertising mats and copy and radio scripts. The NWGA and the National Lamb Feeders Association are furnishing the newspaper advertising at an estimated cost of \$2,250. We thought this program important enough that we agreed to make up the deficit if the NWGA fund is insufficient to cover the entire cost.

In addition, we are cooperating with the National Lamb Feeders Association in a merchandising effort in the Northeastern States at this time. We are obligated to furnish a merchandising man for two weeks and radio time in

FOR WOOL PROMOTION



'WOOL TRAVELS BEST', a nationwide promotion based on the advantages of lightweight wool clothing for travelers, includes five displays to be used in eighteen cities throughout the country. The display above features wool suits and jackets and a poster listing wool's qualities which make it especially desirable for travel. The program is a co-operative effort of The Wool Bureau, Gramercy Park Clothes, Eastern Airlines and Oshkosh Trunks and Luggage, Inc.

Philadelphia, New York and Boston to cost about \$2,300.

In addition, we are cooperating with the Imperial Lamb Feeders in California. They have raised \$30,000 from their members and turned that money over to us to be used for advertising space and radio and TV time. We will furnish the copy and announcement scripts; we will also furnish a merchandising man, other necessary material, etc. In addition, we agreed to carry on the sustaining advertising after their intensive program ends in April.

To sum up, here is how we propose to spend the \$415,000 budget set up to cover the period ending June 30th:

TO PROMOTE LAMB

Regional Campaigns

Newspaper, Radio, TV advertising in Denver, Birmingham, Texas, California, and Cleveland.

Merchandising

Field men, trade mailings, meetings, civic participation.

National Lamb Publicity

Newspapers, Radio and TV, Trade and Consumer Magazines.

Displays and Exhibits

At National Western Stock Show, National Restaurant Association, and other important conventions and meetings.

Restaurant Magazine Advertising

Cooperation with other Lamb Promotions

National Lamb Feeders, National Food Retailers, American Meat Institute, National Live Stock and Meat Board.

TO PROMOTE WOOL

Through the American Wool Council and The Wool Bureau.

You will notice that I have talked chiefly about lamb promotion. This does not mean that wool promotion is being neglected, but merely means that for the present time we are working through the American Wool Council and The Wool Bureau for wool promotion. You have heard, or will hear, what is being done and what is planned for wool. We have had to start from scratch with lamb promotion and that is why our activities have been pretty much concentrated on that angle.

At our March meeting of the Directors of the ASPC the next full year's

program for both wool and lamb will be outlined, and at that time wool will be given its full share of consideration.

There is one angle regarding wool that I am concerned about. That is the emphasis being given imported fabrics in this country. I hope that some method can be devised whereby we can counteract this. My idea is that the best approach is through public relations and publicity, and perhaps some advertising, but I think more can be done, especially at the beginning, through the public relations and publicity channel.

Livestockmen Honored At Washington State

FIVE outstanding stockmen were honored at the annual Student-Stockman Banquet at Washington State College in December, as a part of the annual Stockmen's Short Course. In recognition of their service, directly or indirectly, to agriculture, rural life or the livestock industry of the Northwest, the Lariat Club (honorary Animal Husbandry Club) elected to honorary membership Robert B. Field, Arabian breeder, Leavenworth, Washington; Charles R. Kyd, Doane Agricultural Service, Carmichael, California; Julius E. Nordby, Director, Western Sheep

Breeding Laboratory, Dubois, Idaho; Archie Prior, Sheepman and Cattleman, Yakima, Washington; and Everett J. Warwick, Head of Cattle Research Section, USDA, Beltsville, Maryland. Pictures of these stockmen will be added to the Lariat Club Hall of Fame.

The stockmen were tapped for this high honor by the following WSC Animal Husbandry students: Gerald Mitchell, Garfield, Washington; Doug Richmond, Colville, Washington; Ken MacRae, Cusick, Washington; Jim Hayden, Pullman, Washington; and Toni Murdock, Bremerton, Washington. Bill Stuart, A. H. sophomore from Bartow, Florida, served as toastmaster; and Joan Sherman, Tacoma, Washington, presented the story of Honors and Awards.

Three hundred stockmen attended the traditional Student-Stockman Banquet; and they came from five States, Hawaii, the Virgin Islands, and Canada.

As a part of the banquet, the Animal Husbandry students "Knights Sir Loin," a ceremony depicting a similar event that traces centuries ago to King Charles II of England. Legend has it that King Charles II was so impressed with a platter of beef that was served at one of his feasts that he ceremoniously arose, touched his sword to the steaming platter and said, "A noble joint—it shall have a title. Loin, I dub thee Knight—henceforth thou shall be Sir Loin."



SEATED ARE: Director Julius Nordby, Dr. Everett J. Warwick, Mr. Charles R. Kyd, and Mr. Archie Prior. Standing, first row: Dean S. P. Swenson of the WSC College of Agriculture, Gerald Mitchell, Doug Richmond, Jim Hayden, Ken MacRae, Dr. M. E. Ensminger, Chairman of WSC's A. H. Department, and Mrs. Archie Prior. Back row: Mr. David Foster who is one of two Lariat Advisors (the other advisor, Dr. W. Ham, not present), Bill Stuart, and Toni Murdock.

Due to illness, Mr. R. B. Field was honored in absentia.

THE SOIL BANK PROPOSAL

President Eisenhower discussed this and other important items in his agricultural message to Congress. Here are highlights of that message.

THE soil bank plan has top billing in all discussions and reports of the proposed new farm relief program.

It made the headlines on January 9 when President Eisenhower released his agricultural message to Congress. Since then there has been much discussion both for and against it and on January 17 it was announced that the Administration's soil bank plan had been introduced in Congress by Senator Aiken of Vermont (S. 2949).

The soil bank proposal is a two-pronged affair. It possesses first an acreage reserve program and secondly, a conservation reserve program. According to the Administration's plan, grazing would be prohibited.

Here are the features of the Administration's proposal, as stated by President Eisenhower.

ACREAGE RESERVE PROGRAM

The acreage reserve program involves voluntary reduction in the acreage of such surplus crops as wheat, cotton, corn and rice. In application, special attention would be given to the problems of each commodity separately.

It is essentially a "diverted production plan."

In return for voluntary participation in this acreage reserve program, cooperating farmers, according to the Administration's plan, will be given certificates for commodities whose value will be based on the normal yield of the acres withheld in the reserve. The certificates will be negotiable. They will be redeemable by the Commodity Credit Corporation in cash, or in kind at specified rates.

"I further recommend," the President said, "that the legislation provide that each participating farmer contract to refrain from cropping or grazing any land he puts into the acreage reserve."

The benefits of this plan were listed as follows:

It will help remove the crushing burden of surpluses, the essential precondition for the successful operation of a sound farm program.

It will reduce the massive and unproductive storage costs on Government holdings—costs that are running about a million dollars a day.

It will provide an element of insurance since farmers are assured income

from the reserve acres even in a year of crop failure.

It will ease apprehension among our friends abroad over our surplus disposal program.

It will harmonize agricultural production with peacetime markets.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

This second part of the soil bank proposal is based on the premise that in planning for our future needs, the "sound course both for today and tomorrow is to safeguard our precious heritage of food-producing resources."

The farmers would be asked, according to the Administration's proposal, to "contract voluntarily with the Government to shift into forage, trees and water storage, cultivated lands most needing conservation measures."

Any farmer would be eligible to participate in this program no matter where he lives or what crop he produces. The President expressed the hope that around 25 million acres of land would be brought into this conservation reserve. He proposed that the Government pay a fair share of the cost of establishing the reserve use. A per acre maximum would be set up but it would vary by regions. The Government's share will be large enough to provide the incentive. In addition, the President recommended that certain annual payments be made to the farmer as he reorganized his farm along the conservation lines for a period of years related to the length of time needed to establish the new use of the land.

"The farmer, in turn," the President said, "should agree that the acres put into this conservation reserve will be in addition to any land that he may put into the acreage reserve program and will represent a reduction in cultivated crop land. He will be asked to agree to carry out sound soil and water conservation on these acres and to refrain from returning them to crop production and from grazing them for a specified period of time."

The investment in this program during 1956 was estimated by the President at \$350 million and a total of about a billion dollars over the next three years.

The merits of such a plan were stated by the President as follows:

It will result in improved use of soil and water resources for the benefit of this and future generations.

It will increase our supply of much-needed farm-grown forest products.

It will help hold rain and snow where they fall and make possible more ponds and reservoirs on the farm.

It will reduce the undue stimulus to livestock production, and consequent low livestock prices, induced by feed-grain production on diverted areas.

It will similarly provide protection for producers of the many small-acreage crops whose markets are threatened by even a few diverted areas.

OTHER FEATURES OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S FARM PROGRAM

A stepped-up disposal of surpluses was also proposed and the strengthening of commodity programs. Whenever possible, controls over farmers will be eased or eliminated. Where price supports on commodities are discretionary, support will be continued at the highest levels possible without accumulation of any price-depressing surpluses. However, President Eisenhower asked Congress to consider placing a dollar limit on the size of price supported loans to any one individual or farming unit. The limit, he said, should be sufficiently high to give full protection to efficiently operated family farms.

Rural development and Great Plains programs and the availability of adequate water were also among the President's recommendations to Congress. He also recommended that legislation be passed to relieve the farmer of the Federal tax on gasoline he purchases for his own use.

Research was given considerable attention in the message. The President said that he would request in his budget message a maximum increase in agricultural research funds that can be effectively used next year with the technical manpower and facilities available. This will be an increase of one-fourth to a total of \$103 million.

New uses for agricultural products, finding new markets and new crops and improving marketing mechanism were among the objectives of this research program listed by the President.

Carriers to publish new scale

CLASS RATE DECISION

by H. H. ELLSWORTH, Secretary
Emergency Committee on Intermoun-
tain Freight Rates

AN interim adjustment in the fight to secure equitable class rates in the Mountain-Pacific area has been secured. Railroad carriers have been ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission to publish a new scale of class rates for application from, to, and within Mountain-Pacific territory to become effective not later than June 1, 1956.

This order is our first big break in this case and reduces by 10 to 15 percent discrimination we feel exists between the Eastern and Western States and provides the full alternation privilege we insisted upon.

It now remains for us to continue to prosecute this case until a fair and equitable permanent decision has been rendered on the entire maladjustment.

Briefly, the Interstate Commerce Commission finds that: "Comparisons of territorial costs of 10 Mountain-Pacific railroads—and the railroads within Western Trunk Line and Southwestern territories—show less differences in costs than exist between Eastern district, Pocahontas region and Southern region where a single class rate scale is now in effect."

"Upon the evidence thus far submitted in these investigations, we further find that as a result of these changed conditions and the prevailing differences in transportation costs, there now exists undue prejudice and preference as between mountain-Pacific territory and the territory in which the present transcontinental class-rate adjustment operates, on the one hand, and the respective regions and territories in which the 28300 class rates apply, on the other hand; and that the present class rates within, to, and from mountain-Pacific territory are, and for the future will be, *unjust, unreasonable, and unduly and unreasonably prejudicial* to mountain-Pacific territory, and unduly and unreasonably preferential of the remainder of the United States east thereof. . . . It is our duty under section 15 (1) of the act to determine and prescribe what will be the just and reasonable rates and charges, and what classification will be just, fair, and reasonable, to be hereafter followed."

It is, therefore, ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission that "to remove the unreasonableness of the class rates from, to, and between Mountain-Pacific territory" the rail

carriers be ordered to publish on not less than 30 days statutory notice the scale proposed by the Western railroads and agreed to as minimums by the Eastern railroads *with alternation* where the new class rates are lower than commodity rates.

This interim adjustment, the railroads state, will mean 10 million dollars to the shippers of this area.

A. F. INSISTS ON ALL-WOOL

The U. S. Air Force has announced

that following a series of tests on wool and blended overcoats, that it will continue to use only 100 percent wool in velour overcoats. The tests, it was said, revealed that blending the wool fabric with synthetics is unsatisfactory. The Air Force recommended that even in an emergency, as a wool conservation measure, not to use more than 20 percent of synthetic.

Synthetic fibers used in the tests included acrylic, polyester, viscose rayon and acrylic-vinyl, with the blending with wool ranging from 10 to 60 percent. The report generally stated that as the percentage of synthetic was increased in the blend the difficulties encountered at the fulling process increased and it became more difficult to obtain the desired color and finish.

—Commercial Bulletin, Jan. 21, 1956

MONTANA WINS WOOL JUDGING



Tom Evans, Roger Bracken, W. A. Denecke, III, Gordon Darlington

THE wool judging team from Montana State College won first place in the Collegiate Wool Judging Contest at the 1956 National Western Stock Show in Denver. Team members making the trip were Roger Bracken, Sidney; Gordon Darlington, Three Forks; W. A. Denecke, III, Bozeman, and Tom Evans, Stanford. Evans was second high individual in the contest, and Gordon Darlington was seventh high individual out of the 30 contestants participating. The team was coached by James W. Bassett and James Drummond of the Montana Wool Laboratory.

The first place won by this year's team gives Montana State College permanent possession of the challenge trophy sponsored by the United States Testing Company, Hoboken, New Jersey. The trophy had to be won three times before it could be retained permanently by a school. Montana State College is the first school to win the contest three times since the contest was started at the National Western Stock Show in 1948. Previous winners include Nebraska, 1948; Wyoming, 1949; Utah State, 1950-51; Colorado A & M, 1952; Montana State, 1953-54; and New Mexico A & M, 1955.

Other teams entered in this year's contest included Colorado A & M, Kansas State, Nebraska, California Polytechnic, Wyoming, New Mexico A & M, Texas A & M, Texas Tech, and Utah State.

USDA ANNOUNCES CHANGE ON

Wooled Lamb Incentive Payments

THE U. S. Department of Agriculture announced January 12, 1956 that the method of making payments for lambs marketed with the wool on under the wool incentive program will be changed with the 1956 marketing year beginning next April 1.

Under the new method, each producer who sells unshorn lambs will be eligible for a payment, provided he has owned them for 30 days or more. Payments to each producer will be made on the weight or weight increase of the animals that occurs during his ownership. This is in contrast to the method for the current program of making payments only on animals marketed for slaughter.

The original producer of lambs, under the new method, will be eligible for a payment based on the full live-weight of the animals at the time he sells them. Each subsequent owner will be eligible for a payment only on that portion of the weight produced during his ownership. In the case of lambs purchased before April 1, 1956, and marketed later, payment will be made on the full weight at the time of sale. This is designed to protect feeders and others who buy the animals before April 1 on the basis of this year's program.

Ownership of 30 days or more will continue to be an eligibility requirement. The method* of determining lamb payments will not be changed. The rate will be based on the incentive payment for shorn wool converted to a flat rate per hundred pounds of liveweight of animals marketed. An additional requirement for the coming marketing year provides that payments will be made only on unshorn lambs.

Under the new method, each applicant will be required to make an accounting of the number of head and pounds of animals purchased and sold, and his payment will be made on the pounds gained while he owned them. Payments to producers who buy unshorn lambs and later shear them will be subject to a downward adjustment in any shorn wool incentive payment they apply for. The downward adjustment will be the amount of the lamb payment that the previous owner was eligible to receive.

USDA officials stated that the new method, which has been discussed with wool growers, lamb feeders, and others in the industry, will carry out the intent of the National Wool Act of 1954 by encouraging the normal practice of mar-

keting lambs with the wool on. At the same time, livestock marketing agencies, slaughterers and others will be relieved of the burden of certifying that the animals were purchased for slaughter as required under the current method. The new method of making payments also will carry out the Act's goal of increased wool production by assuring that original producers of lambs will get their full share of these payments as an incentive toward increased production.

Details of the new method will be available to growers through county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation offices before April 1, 1956, when the new marketing year begins.

*The payment for wool on lambs is a flat rate per hundred pounds of live animals sold with the wool on. It is based on the average weight of wool per hundred pounds of animals (five pounds) and 80 percent of the difference between the national average price received by the producers of shorn wool and the incentive price (62 cents for the current and the next marketing year). In other words, it is four times (80 percent of five pounds) the difference between the average and the incentive price per hundred pounds of live animal weight.

Studies Show Hybrid Lambs Are Better

HYBRID lambs—some of which have been developed at the USDA Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland—promise sheepmen increased efficiency in the production of meat and wool, the USDA reports.

Representing two and three-way crosses of different high-quality purebreds, the Beltsville hybrids have far outclassed their parent stock in production and in reduced mortality.

These lambs are crosses of purebred Hampshires, Shropshires, Southdowns, and Merinos of strains that have been improved at Beltsville through several years of selective mating and line breeding. The Department points out, however, that commercial growers can produce vigorous hybrid lambs by crossing their own grade flocks with high-quality purebreds of another breed.

Beltsville tests have shown material improvements in the production and mortality rate of the hybrids compared with purebred lambs from the same foundation strains. Two-way crossbreds were observed over a seven-year period and three-way crosses tested for four

years. Bases of comparison were (1) the mortality rate of the lambs and (2) the "production index" of each ewe, indicating her producing ability in terms of weaned weight of lambs and weight of yearling fleeces.

Average production index of three-way-cross lambings was 74.4, compared with 62 for the purebred flocks used in this cross. This amounts to an average increase of 20.6 percent in the total production of the crossbreds as compared with the purebreds. The three-way-cross lambs showed 38 percent lower mortality than the purebred lambs in these tests.

During seven years of testing the two-way-cross lambs, the ewes showed an average production index of 67.8 percent when bred to rams of other breeds, compared with an index of 58.1 for similar purebred ewes bred to rams of their own breed. This is an increase of 16.7 percent in the total production of the two-breed crosses as compared with production of the purebreds. Lamb mortality was 31.4 percent lower in the crossbreds of this group.

Although this experimental work is not complete, animal husbandman C. G. Potts of USDA's Agricultural Research Service points out that the research so far demonstrates the feasibility and practicability of producing hybrid lambs on a commercial scale. The results are based on the use of purebred flocks in which, through years of improvement, the ability for increased production of meat and wool has become fixed. This fact, the scientist says, emphasizes the need to maintain high-quality purebred flocks whether they are to be used for successful purebreeding or commercial crossing.

In Memoriam

J. FRANK DINGS

WOOLMEN will regret to learn that one of their well-known contemporaries, J. Frank Dings, 57, passed on at his home in Braintree, Massachusetts, on December 28, 1955.

Mr. Dings began his career in the wool industry in 1917 with the old firm of Crimmins & Peirce Co.; then in 1922, he joined Draper & Co., for whom he spent a great deal of time in South America and western America. In 1933, when the National Wool Marketing Corporation emerged from that firm he became a member, remaining there until 1947; then he returned to James B. Draper & Sons as a director and wool buyer. In 1952 he returned to the National Wool Marketing Corporation as general manager, the position he held when he died.



JOHN LEAHY, vice president of Botsford, Constantine and Gardner Advertising Agency, tells Don Clyde, president of the Utah Wool Growers Association about the campaign for lamb that his organization is planning in conjunction with the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.



LOOKING OVER the latest lamb poster issued by the American Meat Institute at the Utah convention are from left to right, E. E. Marsh, executive secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, Allan Adams, vice president of the Utah Association, Alden K. Barton, Utah's Commissioner of Agriculture, Aled P. Davies, American Meat Institute, and Mrs. and Mr. Jack Roberts of Dillon, Montana.

Utah convention draws top speakers

AGRICULTURAL subsidies are but a 'drop in the bucket' compared to subsidies given to labor and industry," according to Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah, president of the Utah Wool Growers Association.

Meeting at their 49th annual convention, members of the Utah association heard their president comment on the present price squeeze being put on agriculture. He noted that while farm prices have been dropping 35 percent, all expenses have been going up.

Though a dominant feeling of pessimism hovered over the convention, the group adjourned their meeting on a note of optimism for what the future holds. "We have weathered and come through hard times before, and we will do it again," was the opinion from the podium.

Don Clyde was reelected president of the association for the 19th time at the January 10 and 11 meeting. The new vice president is Allan N. Adams of Laketown, Utah. J. A. Hooper, Salt Lake City, was reelected secretary-treasurer of the group.

Convention speakers included Aled P. Davies, director, Department of Livestock, American Meat Institute, Chicago, and John Leahy, vice president, Botsford, Constantine and Gardner, San Francisco. Mr. Leahy is the advertising agency account executive handling the lamb promotion being done by the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.

Joseph L. Thorne, veterinarian from the Utah State Agricultural College in Logan, spoke on abortion, staggers and monkey face of sheep. Dr. Larry Stoddard, also from the USAC, told of work being done in the field of halogeton control and research.

President Clyde received the G. F. Swift centennial trophy as Utah's sheepman of the year.

Resolutions passed at the convention:

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

Stated that reciprocal trade agreements have worked to the detriment of agriculture and industry, and considered the matter of trade agreements the function of the Congress and not the Executive Branch of the Government.

Voiced 100 percent stand for protective tariffs.

Called upon labor to take a strong position with regard to protective tariff before the time comes when our requirements will be produced in foreign countries and domestic labor denied the opportunity of serving the domestic market.

Protested the blanket 50 cent per hundredweight freight rate reduction on dressed meat from the Middle West to the Pacific Coast.

Opposed any program which may use the land retired from the production of agricultural crops by the Federal Government for use in the feeding or pasturing of livestock, holding that the industry's position may be worsened through the use of these lands.

Voiced support of Utah's Governor J. Bracken Lee in his request for a determination of the constitutional right of the Congress to impose Federal taxes for the purpose of raising money to be given away in foreign countries.

Expressed support of the Producers Livestock Marketing Association of Salt Lake City in its test of the legality of the restraints placed upon firms or individuals operating from the public livestock markets, restricting them from purchasing livestock in the country.

Voiced opposition on principle to legislation of any kind which will tend to increase the spread between what the producer receives for livestock and what the consumer pays for meat. Agreed with the principle of humane treatment of animals, but opposed all legislation which will force changes in slaughtering methods without regard to economic considerations, particularly an added marketing expense.

Asked the Congress of the United States to offer agriculture a fair deal.

Favored expansion of foreign trade if developed without any industry or commodity being "sold down the river," for the commodity to be exported.

Indorsed the transportation report of a cabinet committee which, if carried out, would lessen regulatory power over railroads.

PUBLIC LANDS

Recommended that sales of State land, when made, be made on the basis of appraised valuation, giving the adjacent property owners, and individuals with prior use to the land, first opportunity to purchase, and recommended that this be established as law.

Commended the local BLM employees in their efforts to administer the Taylor Grazing Act, but recommended that before reductions are made, ample consideration be given all facts and no reductions be made until the local board has been given an opportunity to review the conditions in the presence of the permittee.

Recommended to the Utah executive committee that they cooperate with the officials of the National Wool Growers Association in an effort to confer with the American Mining Congress regarding regulations of mining claims.

Recommended that funds being used for halogeton control be used entirely for reseeding.

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Urged the executive and legislative branches of Government to cooperate in restoring equality in progress to industry, labor and agriculture so that the gap between the price paid to farmers and livestockmen and the prices charged the consumer is narrowed.

Recommended that the criticism of the methods prescribed for the distribution of the incentive payment on unshorn lambs and wethers be carefully studied in order to produce the most efficient, equitable and fair distribution of the payment to those producers who have contributed towards the purposes of the legislation, which is to increase the domestic production of wool.

Recommended that growers exercise extreme care in attractively preparing their

wool for market at the shearing plant so that domestic wools might more favorably compete with foreign wools and bring to the grower the maximum returns possible. Urged legislation be enacted to increase the import duties on both raw wool and manufactured wool products as a means of protecting the incentive payment program and saving the domestic wool manufacturing industry.

Endorsed continuance of the Wool Products Labeling Act and opposed any changes that would allow manufacturers to misrepresent their product by stating less exactly the fiber content.

Recommended that the advertising of wool be pinpointed as much as consistent to domestic wool, and that under the supervision of the ASPC's board of directors wool be advertised through The Wool Bureau, Inc., Wool, Inc., and all other capable instrumentalities for marketing wool. Commended the above named organizations for their outstanding performance in wool promotion.

Strongly recommended that the month of September be publicized as lamb month and requested that all segments assist in the recognition of September as lamb month.

Commended the retail outlets for their fine assistance in the advertising of lamb, and particularly Safeway Stores, Inc., A. G. Food Stores, Grand Central Market, I. G. A., and other independents, as well as the Hotel Utah and all other organizations which contributed to the success of Utah's lamb advertising and promotion program.

Recommended that the ASPC distribute funds for the carrying on of the "Make It Yourself With Wool" program, such funds to be distributed to Women's Auxiliaries on a fair basis, according to the effectiveness of these contests.

Commended the Utah Women's Auxiliary for their outstanding services to the industry.

Urged abolishment of wartime Federal excise tax of three percent on transportation of property and 10 percent on passenger fares.

NATIONAL FORESTS

Voiced belief that forest officials should look towards increased numbers through improvement of the range, by fencing, water development, reseeding, and good management, rather than constantly seeking to make reductions.

Relied upon the commitment of U. S. Forest Service officials that there will be no major change in the issuance of 10-year permits.

Requested that a more realistic study of range conditions be developed and that an extended period of time be taken into consideration rather than a hasty determination of the condition of the range. It was further recommended that the examination be made earlier in the season before frost and stock have taken the vegetation.

Reiterated request for uniform legislation in the interests of stabilizing the livestock business, and improving the management of National Forests.

Asked that the continuity of the "rights to use" grazing land, so long as it is utilized for grazing, and to the extent of its carrying capacity, should be embodied in such legislation.

PREDATORY ANIMALS

Requested Congressional delegation to work for an increase in the appropriation for predatory animal control, so that the Fish and Wild Life Service has a minimum of \$1,500,000 and that a proper allocation provide for increases in the amount allotted to Utah.

Expressed sincere appreciation for the outstanding services performed in predatory animal control work.

BIG GAME ANIMALS

Recommended that an open season be set up for beaver trappers by permit whereby the trapper retains full title to furs for compensation of his work.

Voiced conviction that a two-sex hunt has proved satisfactory in keeping big game herds under control.

Voiced disapproval of the Bow and Arrow Hunt and recommended that it be held during the regular deer season or in post season.

Recommended that BLM carry out antelope program to see that numbers don't increase and jeopardize the range.

Recommended that the Utah Fish and Game Commission make available a sum of not less than \$25,000 for predatory animal control under the cooperative program.

Expressed appreciation to the Fish and Game Department for their efforts during the past year to alleviate congested areas of over population of deer by special hunts.

Utahns Select Wynn Hansen as Top Breeder

A well-known Utah Rambouillet and Columbia sheep breeder, Wynn S. Hansen of Collinston, was selected as Utah's "Sheep Breeder of the Year" during the annual convention of the Utah Wool Growers Association.

The award was made by the Registered Sheep Breeders Association of Utah under the direction of its president, Allan Jenkins of Newton. Mr. Hansen was not at the convention to receive his trophy, so it was presented to his son, Scott.

During the past year, Mr. Hansen has consigned sheep to sales in 10 States. He shipped some of his top animals to Peru after they had been purchased by a Peruvian representative who had inspected leading Rambouillet and Columbia herds of the United States in search of the best breeding stock available.

Consistency of quality and high average prices paid for Hansen sale consignments were factors considered by

the three-man judging team selecting Mr. Hansen for the award.

The judges also noted that he had consigned the champion pen of three ewes for three consecutive years at the National Columbia Sheep Show and Sale.

Cattlemen Approve Restricted Soil Bank

MEMBERS of the American National Cattlemen's Association, meeting at their annual convention in New Orleans in early January, voted to support the Administration's proposed soil bank plan only if restrictions were placed on grazing or forage production on the diverted acres.

This action came the day after Secretary of Agriculture Benson gave a dynamic explanation of the Administration's farm program. Secretary Benson headlined the 11 livestock leaders addressing the convention, and he was commended in a special resolution.

Cattlemen elected Don C. Collins of Kit Carson, Colorado, as their new president. He succeeds Jay Taylor of Amarillo, Texas. Taking Collins' place as first vice president is G. R. "Jack" Milburn, Grass Range, Montana.

Five vice presidents were reelected. They are N. H. Delke, Louisiana; O. W. Lynam, Kansas; Hayes Mitchell, Texas; Don Short, North Dakota; and A. R. Babcock, Idaho.

F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the Cattlemen's Association announced his resignation at the convention. He has been with the American National for 27 years and has been associated with the cattle industry for nearly 50 consecutive years.

Succeeding Mollin will be Radford S. Hall, assistant executive secretary of the American National for nearly 11 years.

ADVERTISING PAYS

WE have placed a little bit of advertising in the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER each year for five years. This consisted primarily of a one inch ad inserted in each issue. It did not cost very much and was only intended to acquaint sheepmen with our brand name.

There is no way of knowing how much good it has done. However, we were very pleasantly surprised recently to have a new prospect in the feed business contact us as a direct result of seeing our ad in the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER. We have since been successful in selling over \$800 worth of our products to this firm.

This is why we have gone "hog wild" and increased our ad to two inches instead of one this year.

—Foley C. Richards, Manager
Stansbury Salt Company, Inc.

from State Presidents



Robert W. Lockett
Arizona



Lloyd Avilla
California



Chester Price
Colorado



Andrew D. Little
Idaho



Gerald Hughes
Montana



Tony Smith
Nevada



Julian Arrien
Oregon



Henry Wahlfeldt
South Dakota



J. B. McCord
Texas



Don Clyde
Utah



George K. Hislop
Washington



Leonard Hay
Wyoming

MORE LAMBS AND WOOL MAY HELP INDUSTRY

THE question that Julian Arrien brought up in his letter in the January NATIONAL WOOL GROWER is interesting. Action will undoubtedly be taken at the National Convention as to what the wool growers think should be done with these diverted acres if a soil bank plan is adopted. I'm sure that we can agree with the cattlemen that we wouldn't want them used to produce more beef. A reduction in the supply of beef and pork will help us as much as them. But when it comes to wool and lamb it might be to the benefit of our industry to have at least part of these acres used to increase the production of these commodities.

The wool bill was set up with the idea that it would increase the production of wool. On the Swift Trip we heard all the time that we couldn't expect the lamb market to improve until we had a larger supply; that with a larger supply of lamb leading to wider distribution we could expect a more stable market and prices for choice lamb to be as high or higher than for choice beef. Anyway, it is an interesting question.

In this part of the country the weather is the subject of a lot of talk and quite a little concern. To say the least it is very unusual. At the start it looked as if we were going to have a real old-fashioned winter; then it turned warm the middle of December and has been

the warmest ever recorded. In places where there were from two to four feet of snow the 15th of December, the snow has melted until it is about the same as it usually is the last of April. This condition makes a lot of extra work and expense; some have had to haul water that have never had to before. And if they aren't hauling water now they soon will be if it doesn't snow. But as usual with sheepmen, we hope we have plenty of moisture yet, that prices go up, and our expenses go down. That's what keeps people in the sheep business. It isn't the profit that's for sure.

—Chester Price

GROWERS TO HEAR NEWS AT WOOL POOL MEETINGS

OFFICERS of the Montana Wool Growers Association are attending a series of wool pool meetings throughout Montana. The first meeting was held January 10 in Fairfield, which is in the northern part of the State. There will be about 12 meetings over the whole State. The last meeting will be March 10 at Wibaux, in the eastern end of the State.

The wool pool meetings provide the growers an opportunity to become better acquainted with the many problems of the industry. The program will consist of speakers to discuss production and marketing problems. This will include increased production for both farm and range flocks, and marketing of the 1956 wool clip. Representatives

from the Extension Service, Wool Laboratory, Animal Industry Department, and Fish and Wildlife Service will be on the programs.

The work of the State and National associations as well as the plans of ASPC will be discussed in detail so each grower will have a better understanding of the work being done.

—Gerald Hughes

WOOL END OF INDUSTRY IS SHOWING SOME LIFE

APPARENTLY from all indications, the wool end of the sheep industry is starting to show some signs of life. The CCC sales have continually at each offering shown a moderate gain in selling price. In fact, from my observation, I believe that the CCC has been doing a better job of selling than the majority of the grower sales which have been consummated in the past 60 days.

Let us hope that the increased number of orders being received by the manufacturers continues to flow in. For in spite of the fact that we have the Wool Act to help take up the slack between expenses and income, we must have a healthy wool market, or the Wool Act will become too important a part in our operations, and this, definitely, is not a healthy condition.

In view of the fact that foreign wool can be bought several cents a pound cheaper than domestic wool, and domestic wool has moved very slowly at

extremely low prices, it becomes more apparent every day that we must have a system of import controls on foreign manufactured cloth and clothing in order to protect the American manufacturer who is our only customer. The American manufacturer today apparently must buy the raw product very cheaply if he is to compete with ruinously low foreign manufacturing costs.

I sincerely hope that in the not too distant future, our country realizes that when the chips are down, the strength of a Nation is measured within its own borders.

—Leonard Hay

OUR PRODUCTS NEED COMMON TERMINOLOGY

I very much agree with the statements made by Lloyd Avilla in the January issue of the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER. We distinctly need a common terminology for our product, something to which we can tie our advertising nationally and something which will arouse the interest of the housewife. In my own mind I feel that we have over-sold the terms "spring lamb" and "milk lamb," and have thusly limited the sale of our product to the time the milk lamb is available. My own personal taste is that the grain-fed lamb with a little more age on it, is a better piece of meat than the actual spring lamb or milk lamb. Certainly we should have one term to describe each kind and use it throughout the Nation.

—George K. Hislop

MR. BIDEGARAY IS 100 PERCENT RIGHT

AFTER having read both Mr. Bidegaray's letter and Mr. Kestnbaum's answer, I still think Mr. Bidegaray one hundred percent right.

Kestnbaum states he never gave the impression that U. S. wool was inferior. Not in so many words, no. But the implication was certainly there.

Everyone in the U. S. knows there are millions of pounds of U. S. wool lying unsold. In view of this fact, coming out with a full page advertisement extolling the merits of South American wool, Hart, Schaffner, & Marx certainly implied our wool was inferior.

I hope Kestnbaum does a better job establishing relations between the State and Federal governments, than he has between his company and the wool growers.

As for a retraction, which Mr. Kestnbaum asks for, I say to Mr. Bidegaray, stand pat. I am with you all the way.

Mr. Kestnbaum has done a masterful job of side stepping and double talking, but I doubt very much if he convinced many wool growers.

—Guy L. Arbogast
Vice President,
Oregon Wool Growers Assn.

WE MUST NOT LOSE WOOL PRODUCTS LABELING ACT

It takes an expert to tell a genuine diamond from the other kind. Also few people can detect a counterfeit bill from a good one.

You believe in the merits of an all-wool garment, and would like to purchase one. But unless the "100% wool" or "All Wool" label is on the garment, you would never know that you were getting what you wanted, until after you had purchased and used the garment.

So let's not sidetrack the Wool Products Labeling Act or the "Truth-in-Fabrics" Act, as many of us call it, and thereby not only lose that valuable legislation for wool but help promote synthetic fibers.

—Henry Wahlfeldt

Vibriosis Committee Reports on Advance

THE semi-annual meeting of the Vibriosis Technical Committee was held in Salt Lake City January 15. Research work carried on since the last meeting in August, 1955, as well as projects for 1956, were discussed by technicians engaged in the research programs in the States of Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana.

While an intensive research program has been underway for several years, even a larger and more vigorous program is planned for 1956 to be supported by a total budget of approximately \$90,000 of State and Federal funds. It is hoped that this effective program will reveal at an early date essential information regarding the transmission and control of this organism which can hit sheepmen's pocketbooks with fury. In the meantime research continues to reveal new factors about the behavior of this plague. In addition to nine important points set forth at the 1955 summer meeting and reported in the October, 1955, edition of the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER, page 9, the following conclusions were reached at the January meeting:

1. Results have been unsuccessful in preliminary trials with antibiotics as

a means of preventing further abortions in a flock where infection is occurring.

2. It has been reported that some range men have used a mixed infection vaccine as a preventative with good results. However, the apparent effectiveness of this vaccine is misleading because losses from abortion usually do not occur in the same flock two years in succession. There is no vaccine that is presently available which is of any value in preventing abortions due to vibriosis.

Progress reports under the expanded research program for 1956 will be presented at the next meeting of the committee in Laramie, Wyoming, the last week of August. Plans for this work include:

1. Investigation of the development of immunity in ewes both naturally and experimentally affected with vibriosis.

2. Possibility of infection being carried over in contaminated premises from one season to the next.

3. Further study of the susceptibility of sheep to vibrio organisms from cattle and vice versa.

Following officers of the Technical Committee were elected to take office next July 1st: Dr. Rue Jensen, Colorado, chairman; Dr. Floyd Frank, Idaho, vice chairman; and Dr. Blaine McGowan, California, secretary.

In addition to the technical workers on the projects, the following Department of Agriculture officials were also in attendance: Dr. B. T. Simms, Dr. Clarence H. Thompson, Jr. and Dr. A. K. Kuttler, all of Washington, D. C.; and Dr. J. Traum, Greenport, Long Island. Dr. M. M. Kelso, Bozeman, Montana, regional advisor to the vibriosis project was also in attendance.

Representing the National Wool Growers Association producers' Vibriosis Committee were A. H. Caine, Idaho; M. V. Hatch and E. E. Marsh, Utah.

Others in attendance were: Doctors E. A. Tunnickliff, chairman of the committee, Hadleigh Marsh, B. T. Firehammer and Stuart Young, Montana; J. W. Childs, W. A. Aanes, and Rue Jensen, Colorado; D. E. Jasper and Blaine McGowan, California; J. Thorne, M. L. Miner, John I. Curtis and Alden K. Barton, Utah; F. W. Frank, Scott B. Brown and A. P. Schneider, Idaho; M. Weldon Glenn, J. E. Rasmussen, J. F. Ryff and James O. Tucker, Wyoming; Frank K. Bracken, Washington.

Farm and retail price spread worries Secretary Benson

FOOD MARKETING COSTS RISE

CONCERN over rising food marketing costs caused Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson to have a study initiated on "Marketing Costs for Food." The report of that work recently released summarizes recent trends in food marketing costs and in the distribution of the consumer's food dollar.

Secretary Benson noted that the spread between farm and retail prices of food increased 83 percent since 1945. The report states that this had been a primary factor in the decline in the farmer's share of the consumer's retail food dollar from a record high of 53 percent in 1945 to an average of 41 percent in 1955.

The spread has widened primarily because of the substantial increase in all costs of performing marketing services since 1945, according to the report. Wage rates are up almost 100 percent over 1945, freight rates and other costs—packaging material, containers, fuel, equipment, rents, etc.—are up about two-thirds. State and local property taxes have increased substantially. Actual labor costs have not increased as fast as wage rates, because output per man-hour has increased according to the report.*

Pork and beef stand out as commodities for which marketing charges have continued to rise while too-abundant production drove down the farmer's price. Consumer costs for pork and beef have declined less than the drop in farm prices. For potatoes, on the other hand, the price spread has been substantially narrowed.

The report shows that profits of a group of large food processors, wholesale distributors, and retail food chains have grown substantially since 1945. This increase has been due primarily to the increased volume of food sales handled by these firms.

Citing the report, Secretary Benson said the Nation's food marketing bill increased from \$9 billion in 1940 to \$32 billion in 1955. Several factors accounted for the \$23 billion increase. They include:

- (1) The 40 percent increase in the volume of food handled accounts for \$4 billion of the increase.
- (2) The general rise in all prices and costs has roughly doubled the charges for performing marketing operations. This accounts for \$13 billion of the increase.
- (3) Payments for marketing services

that did not exist in 1940 account for \$6 billion of the increase.

Copies of the report, "Marketing Costs For Food," miscellaneous publication number 708 are available from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

***(EDITOR'S NOTE: All of the farmer's costs have risen also, but unfortunately he is not able to pass them on to the same extent that other segments of the industry can.)**

Agricultural Products In Record Abundance

THE world has the greatest abundance of agricultural products it has ever known, according to a study just completed by the USDA.

In an annual report entitled "World Agricultural Situation, 1956," the Department's Foreign Agricultural Service states that overall agricultural production in every major world area in 1955-56 is exceeding 1954-55, and that the new world index of agricultural production, including crops and livestock, is 119 percent of prewar (1935-39). It was 117 percent in 1954-55.

The agricultural situation report is not an inventory of supplies available as of January 1, 1956, but summarizes supplies of crops already produced or still to be obtained in the early months of

the 1956 calendar year, and livestock products produced in calendar year 1956.

The rise in world crop production in the past few years has reflected good growing conditions and many economic factors which have favored continuous expansion. This has resulted in ever-mounting world surpluses of many agricultural commodities, with following price weaknesses from the levels of the immediate postwar years.

During 1955 prices of world agricultural commodities weakened generally but moderately. Continued high level of demand associated with high economic activity, and the world-wide tendency of governments to protect the prices of domestically produced products, have cushioned the decline.

A year ago, the somewhat smaller crop productions of 1954-55 permitted the partial liquidation of carry-over stocks from the larger production of the two previous years, but the record output of 1955-56 has more than replaced the depletions. Programs for reducing areas devoted to surplus crops have been extended, but offset to considerable degree by higher yields and expansion in newer areas.

Customers abroad are not as dependent upon the United States as they were several years ago. In the last two years, however, the U. S. has maintained its proportionate position despite foreign production increases. The principal factors sustaining U. S. agricultural trade are the favorable economic situation in foreign markets, and governmental programs to stimulate imports.

Livestock numbers have been increasing for a number of years, and now meat output is at a record height.

World sheep numbers have also continued to rise, and fleece outturn likewise has increased. World wool production set a record in 1955.

SHEEPHERDER SAM





Swift's 1955 business, like yours, showed a big difference between gross and net

Show some folks the figures on *gross* income from farming or ranching and they'll say: "Those fellows must be doing all right!"

Trouble is, many people don't stop to think about the big difference between your "gross income" and your "net" . . . the difference between total receipts from the sale of your products and the amount you have left *after* production bills are paid.

We often run into the same kind of problem. Because our business is one of those in which the margin between total income and outgo is small . . . there's a big difference between gross and net.

A few figures from Swift's annual report for 1955 will show you what I mean:

Last year, Swift took in \$2,404,123,642 from the sale of meat and other products. But our expenses, including the cost of livestock and other raw materials, added up to \$2,381,230,487.

In other words, expenses took 99 cents out of our average sales dollar . . . leaving one cent as profit.

To earn that penny of profit per

sales dollar, Swift performed many essential services. Most important of these was helping to provide a market for your livestock and other products . . . converting the things you raise into the food products consumers want, shipping those products where the consumer can use them, and making them attractive and convenient enough to induce your customers—and ours—to buy them.

In the next column you'll find the full story-in-figures of Swift's business in 1955.



Al McGuire
TREASURER,
SWIFT & COMPANY
UNION STOCK YARDS,
CHICAGO










To Serve Your Farm and Family Better

Swift's business in 1955

Total sales of meat and other products . . .	\$2,404,123,642
Total expenses, including taxes . . .	\$2,381,230,487
Total net earnings	\$ 22,893,155

Of our average sales dollar:

-  **71 2/10 cents** was paid out for livestock and other "raw materials"
-  **14 1/10 cents** went into wages and salaries of the 78,000 people who work for us
-  **5 3/10 cents** was spent on supplies—fuel, electricity, containers, sugar, salt, etc.
-  **2 8/10 cents** covered our transportation bill for moving your products to consumers
-  **1 5/10 cents** was taken by taxes—federal, state and local . . . actually more than net profit
-  **4 1/10 cents** was needed to cover other expenses—interest, depreciation, rent, communications, insurance, advertising, etc.
-  **1 cent** was left as **net profit**.



Report: JANUARY LAMB MARKET

Late-Month Prices Strengthen to \$21.50

OPENING the new year with a steadily climbing market, January's lamb sales reached a late-month high of \$21.50 at Chicago on choice and prime slaughter offerings. This is the highest price paid for lambs since October.

Numbers of sheep marketed for slaughter at most midwestern points in January were the highest they had been since mid-October.

Choice and prime slaughter lambs sold in a price range of \$18 to \$21 during the month. Most sales of these top quality lambs were made between \$18.25 and \$19.

More plentiful supplies of good and choice slaughter lamb offerings were sold from \$16 to \$20.25. Bulk of these lambs sold from \$17.50 to \$18.50. The high price was paid at Chicago and the low at Fort Worth.

Dressed carcass prices in New York ranged from \$32 to \$46 on choice and prime offerings and from \$28 to \$45 on good and choice classes.

Slaughter ewes reflected the January price increase as they climbed to an \$8 high at Denver late in the month. Most good and choice offerings sold from \$5.25 to \$7.25, with a low of \$4 being registered at Omaha.

Cull and utility slaughter ewes sold in a price range of from \$3 to \$7, with most sales being made from \$4.25 to \$6.50.

Prices on feeder lambs remained fairly stable during the month, with no sizable increase being noted. Good and choice feeder lamb offerings sold in a \$15 to \$18.50 price range. The low price was paid briefly at Ogden and the high was reached early in the month at Fort Worth.

COUNTRY SALES AND CONTRACTING

COLORADO

Around 20 loads of fed woolled lambs grading mostly choice with an end of prime sold in northern Colorado in mid-January at \$18.50 to \$19, delivered to Denver. Weights under 110 pounds usually brought \$18.75 to \$19.

TEXAS

Several shipments of mixed feeder lambs sold early in the month on the Edwards Plateau at \$16.75 and \$17, including 1950 head of fall shorn lambs at \$16.75. Also in the same area, 2,000 clipped fleshy feeder lambs brought \$16.

Later in January in the Rio Grande plains area 2,500 whiteface fall shorn lambs averaging 80 pounds sold at \$17.

Several bands of breeding ewes, totaling around 5,000 head, and mostly yearling age, were reported moving from Texas to old Mexico at \$15 to \$16 per head.

MONTANA

A few cars of good to mostly choice woolled slaughter lambs, 103 to 111 pounds, sold at \$16.75 to \$17.50 in the Billings area. Around 1,800 head of shearing lambs sold for February 1 delivery in the Hardin area at \$17.50, hauled 20 miles and 2 percent shrink.

Earlier in the month around 800 head of fed woolled and shorn lambs made \$16.50 to \$16.75, weighing from 101 to 105 pounds.

SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Belle Fourche area of South Dakota a sale of 1,450 head of 83-pound feeder lambs was recently reported at \$16.75, also 400 head of five-year-old ewes sold about evenly divided at \$12.50 to \$13.50.

CALIFORNIA

Sales of good and choice number one and two pelt slaughter lambs out of the Imperial Valley were mostly at \$19, f.o.b. valley with 4 percent shrink. Other quoted sales were mainly at two percent shrink, and bids up to \$19.50 were made sparingly.

INTERMOUNTAIN AREA

Good to mostly choice Utah and Idaho fed woolled lambs sold at \$17.75 to \$18.75. The bulk of Idaho lambs sales were made late at \$18 to \$18.25.

In early January several loads of choice woolled slaughter lambs carrying an end of prime sold out of Idaho and Wyoming at \$18.50, a few loads reaching \$19, f.o.b. ranch at four percent shrink.

WASHINGTON

Some sales of fed clipped lambs from lots were at \$18 for number one and two pelts, those f.o.b. lot, four percent shrink. Some such offerings were made later in the month without takers.

One load of fed woolled lambs sold early in the month at \$19. A deck of fed shorn lambs, fall shorn pelts, brought \$17.75 delivered to plant and weighed off trucks.

Slaughter lambs in the Portland, Oregon area moved at \$18 to \$18.50 delivered to plants.

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1955	1954
Total U. S. Inspected		
Slaughter, First Twelve Months	14,993,000	14,199,000
Week Ended Jan. 21, 1956		Jan. 22, 1955
Slaughter at Major Centers	266,959	266,609
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled):		
Choice and Prime	\$19.10	\$21.00
Good and Choice	18.70	19.90
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices:		
Prime, 40-50 pounds	38.00	44.80
Choice, 40-50 pounds	38.00	42.90
Good, All Weights	34.50	41.00

Federally Inspected Slaughter—December

	1955	1954
Cattle	1,617,000	1,583,000
Calves	633,000	639,000
Hogs	7,324,000	6,119,000
Sheep and Lambs	1,155,000	1,167,000

LAMB DISH OF THE MONTH



LAMB PIE

Menu

Hot Tomato Juice
Lamb Pie
Lettuce Wedges with
Celery Seed Dressing
Hard Rolls
Butter or Margarine
Cherry Roly Poly
Milk Coffee

Lamb Pie

2 cups diced cooked lamb
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped celery
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped onion
2 tablespoons lard or drippings
1 teaspoon salt
 $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper
 $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon dried mint flakes
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups thin gravy or $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups water
and 2 bouillon cubes
2 tablespoons flour (for thickening
bouillon, if used)
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup diced cooked carrots
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup diced cooked potatoes
1 cup cooked green beans
Biscuits

Cook lamb, celery and onion in lard or drippings until lightly brown. Add seasonings. Stir in gravy or bouillon. Add vegetables. Cook until mixture begins to simmer. Pour into a 2 quart casserole. Top mixture with heart-shaped biscuits. Bake in a hot oven (425°F.) 15 to 20 minutes or until biscuits are browned. 4 servings.

BISCUITS

1 cup sifted enriched flour
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking powder
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons lard
3 to 4 tablespoons milk

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Cut in lard until mixture has fine even crumb. Add enough milk to make a soft dough. Turn on to a lightly floured surface and knead gently for $\frac{1}{2}$ minute. Pat or roll $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick and cut with a heart-shaped biscuit cutter dipped in flour. Place the biscuits on top of the meat mixture and bake in a hot oven (425°F.) 15 to 20 minutes or until browned. Yield: 4 to 5 biscuits.

(Department of Home Economics, National Live Stock and Meat Board)

8 Percent Fewer Lambs On Feed Than Year Ago

THERE were eight percent fewer lambs on feed for market in the U. S. on January 1, 1956 than there were a year ago, according to a recent USDA news release.

The number is estimated at 4,100,000 head, 345,000 head less than last year. Most of the decrease occurred in the western Corn Belt and on wheat pastures in the South and Central Great Plains States. The majority of the Western States also showed decreases.

In the 11 Corn Belt States, the number of sheep and lambs on feed is estimated at 2,145,000 head, 13 percent below a year ago. Shipments of sheep and lambs into the nine Corn Belt States for which State inspection data are available for July through December 1955 were seven percent below the same months for 1954.

The number of lambs on feed in the wheat pasture areas of the Great Plains was down sharply from last year. In Kansas, the number of sheep and lambs on wheat pastures on January 1 was estimated at about 84,000 head, compared with 147,000 head last year. Lack of rain since October has limited wheat growth, and only a limited amount of acreage, mostly irrigated, was available for pasture. Total lambs on feed in Kansas were down 33 percent; in Oklahoma, 10 percent; and in Texas 25 percent.

In the leading western feeding State, Colorado, lamb numbers were 10 percent below January 1 of 1955. In northern Colorado, 335,000 head were on feed compared with 397,000 head last year. The Arkansas Valley in Colorado showed an increase of 32 percent.

In California, the second largest feeding State in the West, sheep and lambs on feed are estimated at 320,000 head—three percent larger than on January 1, 1955.

Lamb feeding in the North Platte Valley of Nebraska and Wyoming was below a year ago. Numbers on feed this year were lower than a year ago in most western States. Washington is estimated to have 22 percent fewer sheep and lambs on feed. Idaho, Utah and Nevada were each down nine percent; Arizona down eight percent; Oregon down five percent; and Wyoming down two percent. Montana had 22 percent more sheep and lambs on feed this year than a year ago.

To January 1, weather conditions have been generally favorable for lamb feeding, except in the Great Plains States where lack of rainfall has restricted development of wheat pastures.

EXPANSION BEGINS IN WEST

AN expansion of operation and service to grower members has been embarked upon in a new western program by the State cooperative wool marketing associations, organizations which are members of the National Wool Marketing Corporation.

As a first step in this program National Wool Marketing has opened a western office in Denver, and acquired a new western warehouse at Salt Lake City which will be operated by the National, but will serve State associations in Utah, Nevada, and Idaho. Robert Franklin, Public Relations Counsel for the national wool grower cooperative, has been placed in charge of the Denver office, and Al Willis has been transferred from the Boston office to take charge of wool handling operations.

During the 1956 clip season, in addition to the Salt Lake warehouse, member associations will operate warehouses handling western wool at San Francisco; Denver; Minneapolis; Cheyenne, Kemmerer, and Rawlins, Wyoming; and Fargo, North Dakota. A National field staff under Willis will assist him in grading and sales operations at these western warehouses.

The Boston sales staff of National will spend considerable time in the West this year in developing an expanded program of sales of the western wools direct from the production areas, with the first 1956 activities in this respect scheduled to begin in Arizona and California.

James Lemmon of South Dakota, president of the National group, said in announcing the new western setup, that the move was brought about by new opportunities to provide improved grower service in marketing.

Lemmon said that the incentive payment program for wool provided an incentive for better marketing on the part of the growers, and required the marketing of all the domestic clip rather than having large portions of it go into Government stockpiles under the previous support program. He added that this provided an opportunity for better grower returns both in the price of the wool on the open market and the resulting comparative incentive payment.

Member State associations participating in the expanded grower service program in the West, to be served by



H. Milton Heins of San Francisco, Robert Franklin of Denver, Carl J. Nadasy of Minneapolis, and Martin Erratobere of Fresno, examine wool in the Cal-Wool Marketing Association warehouse in San Francisco. Heins is Cal-Wool Warehouse manager; Nadasy is general manager of cooperative wool grower associations in South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. Franklin is public relations counsel for the N. W. M. Corp., and Erratobere is a field representative.

the western office of the National, include: Arizona Wool Growers Association with headquarters at Phoenix; Cal-Wool Marketing Association with headquarters in Berkeley; Colorado Wool Marketing Association with offices at Denver; Colorado-New Mexico Wool Marketing Association at Durango; Idaho Wool Marketing Association at Pocatello; Central Wool Marketing Corporation with headquarters at Chinook, Montana.

Minnesota Cooperative Wool Growers Association, Cooperative Wool Growers of South Dakota, Iowa Sheep & Wool Growers Cooperative, all three with headquarters at Minneapolis; Nevada Wool Marketing Association at Ely; Utah Wool Marketing Association at Salt Lake City; Wyoming Cooperative Wool Marketing Association at Cheyenne; and, North Dakota Cooperative Wool Marketing Association at Fargo.

Capital Gains Battle Helps Livestockmen

GOOD news. You will recall Revenue Ruling 55-188, an apparent attempt by some individuals in the Internal Revenue Service to reduce the benefits of capital gains. This ruling provided that the "normal costs" during the year of sale of carrying animals which qualified as capital assets should not be

deductible but should reduce capital gains claimed. As a result of our brief in opposition to this ruling, and a hearing in Washington, a clarifying ruling has been issued—Revenue Ruling 55-736.

The new ruling specifies that the principle of Revenue Ruling 55-188 does not apply to livestock producers on the cash basis nor to those inventorying at farm market. With respect to those inventorying on the unit livestock price method, it applies only to immature animals and requires only that there be added to the opening inventory price a pro rata of the differential between the opening inventory price and the price at which the animals would have been valued in closing inventory. For example, if yearlings are valued at \$20 and two's at \$30, and a heifer which qualifies as a capital asset and which was classified as a yearling in the opening inventory is sold in July, its cost, for the purpose of figuring capital gain, would be \$25. This is entirely consistent with the theory of the unit livestock price method of inventorying. It merely spells out what perhaps was implied already. We feel that it is a reasonable interpretation.

So endeth another phase in the battle to maintain capital gains.

—Stephen H. Hart
Attorney for National Live
Stock Tax Committee

NEW I.C.C. COMMISSIONERS

Rupert L. Murphy of Atlanta, Georgia, was formally nominated on January 9 by President Eisenhower as a Commissioner of the Interstate Commerce Commission for a term expiring December 31, 1957.

Murphy has been traffic manager and attorney for the Georgia-Alabama Textile Traffic Association and a representative of the American Cotton Manufacturers Institute. Murphy had earlier received a recess appointment to the I.C.C.

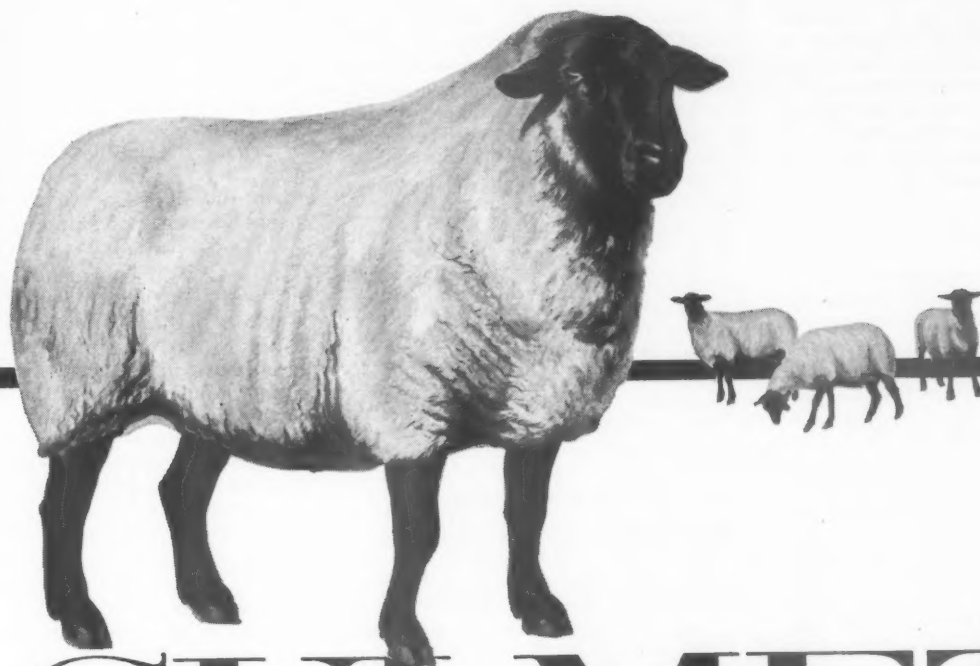
President Eisenhower also named Robert W. Minor to fill an I.C.C. term expiring December 31, 1958. Minor, formerly an assistant to Senator Brickner of Ohio, is now a Justice Department official.

AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANTS

M. L. McLain, formerly head of the grain division of the Commodity Stabilization Service, has been named as an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. An Iowa corn-hog man, McLain succeeds James A. McConnell, recently resigned.

Howard Doggett, formerly assistant to Mr. McConnell, is now a special assistant to Secretary Benson without portfolio, we understand.

USED, PROVED and DEPENDED UPON
by thousands of successful sheep raisers



SULMET®

SULFAMETHAZINE

**for SHIPPING PNEUMONIA, FOOT ROT,
 COCCIDIOSIS, BLUE BAG,
 PINK EYE, BACILLARY ENTERITIS**

Why is it that successful sheep raisers use and depend on SULMET? Treatments come and go but SULMET is the dependable guardian of the health of your sheep—and your profits!

It's a powerful time-proved treatment, yet gentle and easy on your animals. It stays with them longer, effectively shortens the period of

sickness, promotes more rapid recovery.

SULMET costs you less per animal treated and saves you the costly losses caused by death, stunting and lost weight. Frequently a single treatment with SULMET is sufficient.

Available at your druggist or feed store. Write for free literature.



LEDERLE LABORATORIES DIVISION

AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY

PEARL RIVER, NEW YORK

REPORT: January Wool Market

First '56 Clip Sale Reported at \$1.25

THE first reported sale of 1956 wools was made in the White Sulphur Springs area of Montana early in January. Some 10,000 fleeces of fine, half blood and a little three-eighths were involved in the transaction. The clean price was \$1.25 delivered Boston. The shrinkage of the clip will be determined by core test at Boston. The clip is said to be a very light-shrinking one from one of Montana's outstanding flocks. Estimates are that it will bring the grower 50 to 52 cents per grease pound at his loading point.

A few transactions in western areas are reported here. The 1955 Texas clip is practically gone and the little left is firmly held.

Stocks of wool are indeed light. The Exchange Service Bureau reports that on January 1, 1956 stocks of apparel wools in the United States were estimated to be 76 million clean pounds, as compared with 100 million clean pounds a year ago and 120 million pounds on January 1, 1954.

The total includes the estimated shorn production for 1955, the estimated pulled production for 1955, total of duty-paid imports for the year, with the last three months estimated. It also includes the wool held by the CCC, now being sold under a monthly quota plan. Foreign wools currently held in bond are not included.

Consumption during 1955 is estimated at 299 million clean pounds compared with 278 million clean pounds in 1954 and 358 million pounds in 1953.

1955 Imports Up

Net imports of apparel wool were up in 1955. They are estimated at 119 million pounds (clean basis) as against 105 million pounds in 1954. In 1953, however, net imports totaled 166 million pounds.

There is a little wonder that some of the dealers are putting strong pressure to bear upon the Government to sell CCC wools without any quota limits during the next three months. Present assertions of the USDA are that there will be no change in the selling policy.

The January 6¼ million pound quota of CCC wools was sold in two weeks, one ending January 5 and the other January 19. Bids on approximately three million pounds were accepted from bids received on about 40 million pounds

during the week ending January 5. The week ending January 19th 3,258,000 pounds were sold. Since the opening of the sales in November and up to the end of January, approximately 18,708,000 pounds of stockpile wools had been sold. The next sale is scheduled for February 7, 1956. From here on only bids on the clean basis will be considered.

The table presented here shows how prices have increased in the CCC sales since they were inaugurated in November.

Another encouraging factor in the wool market is the recent announcement by the Philadelphia Quartermaster that he is calling for bids on 1,428,000 square yards of wool serge. We understand that only bids from firms in disaster (flood or hurricane) areas will be considered.

Military to Purchase

The Army and Navy have also recently announced that they will buy substantial lots of clothing during fiscal 1957. The Marines and Air Force will also increase their purchases somewhat.

In the manufacturing end of the busi-

ness 1956 opened with every indication, the press asserts, that the coming year's operations will be in the black. Generally, manufacturers are said to be in better spirits and are fully aware of the benefits they have received from lower world wool prices last year which have not gone into the finished products; that is, they have been able to sell the finished fabrics without reducing prices in proportion to the reduction in the raw wool figures.

Foreign markets opened strong after the holiday recess. Price increases from 2 to 3 pence were reported in some instances and during the weeks following a firm price basis has been maintained. The Australian dock strike, although tying up exports, had not resulted in the cancellation of any auctions up to February 1, the date of this report. U. S. buyers, it is reported, are hesitant about buying wool there without the usual guaranty of shipping date.

Activity in South American markets continues firm. A considerable volume of wool is being purchased there. Growers in these countries are protected through currency manipulations and other Government regulations, but some market observers say these measures have only placed the wools there at the world price level. Increased purchases in that area by U. S. importers, however, indicate that prices there may be lower than our own market.

But, altogether, there are many encouraging factors in the wool market. Maybe if everyone keeps his fingers crossed, 1956 will be a good year, or at least a better year for the wool textile industry in all its branches.

MINIMUM BID PRICES, CLEAN BASIS, ACCEPTED FOR CCC-OWNED WOOLS ON SPECIFIED GRADES AND CLASSES

	MINIMUM BID PRICES ACCEPTED ON						Jan. 17 Prices over Lowest Prices Accepted in November
Description	Nov. 8 1955	Nov. 15 1955	Nov. 22 1955	Dec. 6 1955	Jan. 3 1956	Jan. 17 1956	Cents per Clean Lb.
Graded Territory:							
Fine-Staple & gd Fr.....	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.261	\$1.28	\$1.32		.....
Fine-Ave. & gd. Fr.....	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.235	1.26	\$1.293	+ 9.3
Fine-Short Fr. & Clo.....	1.10	1.105	1.10	1.14	1.19		.....
½ Blood-Staple & gd. Fr....		1.15	1.16	1.17	1.202	1.236	+ 8.6
¾ Blood-Staple & gd. Fr....	1.056	1.05	1.05	1.075	1.11	1.155	+10.5
¼ Bl.-St. & gd. Fr. 48/50s .....		.951	.95	.97	1.04	1.063	+11.3
Original Bag Territory:							
Fine-Staple & gd. Fr.....	1.225	1.192	1.188	1.21	1.26	1.301	+11.3
Fine-Ave. & gd. Fr.....	1.135	1.13	1.13	.....	1.241	1.26	+13.0
Original Bag Texas:							
12 Mo. gd. Fr. & Staple....	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.31	1.36	1.381	+ 8.1
12 Mo. Ave. & gd. Fr.....	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.26	1.32	1.34	+ 9.0
8 Months best length.....	.....	.....	1.13	1.129	.....	.....	.....
8 Months Ave. to short.....	.....	.....	1.10	.....	1.151	.....	.....
Fall best length.....	.....	.....	1.02	1.022	1.055	1.08	+ 6.0
Graded Fleece Wool:							
Fine-Staple & gd. Fr.....	.....	.....	1.151	1.173	1.25	1.32	+16.9
½ Blood-Staple & gd. Fr....	1.105	.....	1.10	1.13	1.142	1.18	+ 8.0
¾ Blood-Staple & gd. Fr....	1.036	.....	1.02	.98	1.055	1.081	+ 6.1
¼ Bl.-St. & gd. Fr. 48/50s .....	.....	.905	.90	.92	1.012	1.026	+12.6

Livestock and Dairy Division, CSS
1/24/56

CALIFORNIA

Sales of privately stored California wool in the San Joaquin and Bakersfield area at 33 to 40 cents were reported the middle of January. Other transactions at that time included some Los Banos wools around 40 cents and Northern California wools at 37½ to 48 cents to the grower. Some 135 bags of Nevada wool stored in San Francisco brought 42 cents a pound (\$1.20 to \$1.25 clean) and 180 bags of California wool, 36 to 37 cents a pound (\$1.15 to \$1.17 clean) at a sealed bid sale in San Francisco. These prices are said to be three to five cents a clean pound higher than a month or so ago.

IDAHO

We have an unconfirmed report of a sale of one lot of wool at 46½ cents, or 44 cents net to the grower.

MONTANA

In addition to the sale of the 1956 wool, two lots of 1955 wools totaling 100,000 pounds were reported sold at 40 cents.

NEW MEXICO

The Bond Baker Warehouse and Abe Mayer Warehouse at Roswell reported at mid-month a sale of 330,000 pounds of lamb's wool. Prices ranged from 38 to 41 cents. This is feeder lamb wool only. These prices are up slightly from late 1955.

OREGON

J. B. Stanfield, Inc., reports that approximately one million pounds of free wool had sold in the last three weeks of December and the first week of January. Good, long fine wools brought \$1.28 to \$1.30 clean. Half blood wools were sold at \$1.18 to \$1.20; three-eighths at \$1.05 to \$1.10; quarters from \$1.00 to \$1.05 and low quarter-blood from 90 to 95. These prices are all on a delivered East Coast basis.

J. M. Coon Wool Company sold 24,000 pounds of three-eighths blood at around \$1.05 clean. That company also sold 21,000 pounds of low quarter blood at 95 cents clean and two lots of scoured half blood at \$1.18.

Pacific Wool Growers advised on January 9 that they had made quite a

few sales at these prices: 118,000 pounds of half blood at \$1.23 to \$1.24 clean; also one lot of territory half blood at \$1.21 to \$1.23; substantial quantities of territory three-eighths at \$1.11 clean basis landed Boston. They also sold Willamette Valley wools at \$1.04 to \$1.05 for three-eighths and \$1.02 to \$1.03 for quarter blood. Braid wools were bringing 92 to 95 cents clean, delivered.

UTAH

Three lots of 1955 Utah free wools were sold early in January: one at 36 cents, one at 37½ cents and one at 38½ cents.

TEXAS

Very little wool is left in Texas and the demand there is apparently quite keen. Original bag 12-months' wool has been selling in a range of \$1.33 to \$1.35, clean basis. Light-shrinking clips were bringing 50 cents in the grease and others ranging down to 32 cents in clean-up trade at the end of the month. Early shorn greasy lamb's wool was estimated to cost clean from \$1.10 to \$1.15 delivered Boston, at around the middle of January.

U. S. REFUSES

Tariff Negotiations Asked by Australia

(Reprinted from January issue of "Muster," the Journal of the Graziers' Association of New South Wales.)

THE United States has refused an official Australian request for negotiations on the U. S. tariffs on wool, beef, mutton and lamb.

This was revealed last week by the secretary of the Graziers' Federal Council, Mr. G. D'A Chislett.

Mr. Chislett said that the Graziers' Federal Council had requested the then Minister for Commerce and Agriculture, Mr. McEwen, to ask the United States to negotiate for a reduction in duties on meat and wool under the provisions of the U. S. Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act.

Mr. McEwen has advised the Council that, in reply to formal requests, the U. S. Government had stated that they were unable to negotiate on these items.

The terms of the U.S.A. Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act permit President Eisenhower to lower duties by 15 percent of the levels operating on July 1, 1955, over a three-year-period (5 percent per year). The duty on wool could be lowered from 25.5 cents per pound, clean to 21.6 cents per pound.

AMERICAN WOOL COUNCIL

(Continued from page 17.)

store promotions and the advertising of wool textile mills and manufacturers.

Promotion and advertising cannot be over-emphasized, however, for wool needs a far larger share of the \$10 billion annual retail sales of outerwear. If wool is to retain its position as the premier fiber of men's and women's clothing, still more stress must be placed on promotion, he asserted. There will be 175 million Americans by 1960 and 200 million by 1970, and, if the full potential of these new markets is to be realized, the present campaign in wool's behalf must be expanded.

Mr. Schmitt's contention was supported by Kennet Hinks, a vice president of the J. Walter Thompson Company, in a short talk before the Council. The Thompson agency currently handles national consumer advertising for wool. A third speaker was Toni Robin, director of women's wear promotion for The Wool Bureau, who reported on wool promotion programs conducted in co-operation with leading retail stores from coast to coast.

The Council of Directors of the American Wool Council will hold its next meeting at Helena, Montana in conjunction with the NWGA executive committee, July 17-18, 1956.

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PARITY AND AVERAGE PRICES

Average Prices	Dec. 15	Jan. 15
Wool	39.2	39.5
Lambs	16.50	17.10
Parity Prices		
Wool	58.6	60.1
Lambs	23.10	23.30

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Center, Colorado
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LAIDLAW, FRED M.
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MEULEMAN & SONS, HARRY
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RICKS BROS.
Rte. 1, Idaho Falls, Idaho

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BEAL, DR. JOHN H.
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PEMBROKE, RALPH
Big Lake, Texas
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Drumheller, Alta., Canada
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this month's Quiz

"HOW DO YOU THINK THE 'SOIL BANK' PLAN WOULD AFFECT THE SHEEP INDUSTRY?"

I do not think that the soil bank plan would hurt the sheep industry as much as it would the cattle industry. Our problem doesn't seem to be so much in surplus production as it is with cattle but more concerned with competing with foreign wool and educating the public to eat more mutton. It is possible that such a plan could help the sheep industry in creating a demand for breeding animals and if sheep were more diversified over the country—and other areas had easier access to lamb—it could increase our consumption of lamb (in relation to other meats.)

—Howard C. Derrick
Eldorado, Texas

The soil bank plan will have very little effect. It was tried once before and we still have a farm depression.

—Roy E. Haines
Maurine, S. D.

I do not think the soil bank plan would make any difference in this area. There are not enough fields in my area that produce anything other than winter grazing.

—Diamond S. Ranch
Kerrville, Texas

A compulsory soil bank will hurt irrigation farmers if they can't use the ground for forage. I suppose it would hurt the range cattlemen if they do use it for forage, but I don't think it will hurt the range sheepmen as much.

It seems to me the people who will benefit from any soil bank program are big farmers who have a lot of marginal and low-income-per-acre land.

—Bill Israel
Quincy, Washington

Growing more trees will not affect the livestock industry but growing more grass will. More grass will mean more livestock;—more livestock, more meat.

This we do not need at present. We are already producing all the meat the people of this country can buy and eat, so why over produce? Let supply and demand take care of the situation.

—Walter Handley
Reno, Nevada

If in the soil bank plan we are permitted to use the land taken out of small grain production and seed to pasture, I can see no reason why it should

not lead to creating a surplus in the livestock industry.

On the other hand we are on a fertile, irrigated diversified place where taxes are high and there are not too many acres (460 A). Our cost of production is much higher than on some of the larger dryland farms, as you need just so much machinery to carry on your operation, whether large or small: our wheat acreage allotment is 74 acres.

I am not familiar enough with the soil bank plan proposed to know whether I am for or against it, at this time.

—Ralph Sime
Bozeman, Montana

I am not familiar enough with the proposed operation of the soil bank plan to predict the results of such a proposal.

I am a believer in Supply and Demand. It seems all of the proposed relief measures will help some and hurt others. I think if we had less Government help, our troubles would adjust themselves. If we cannot produce mutton and wool at prices the consumer can pay, we will have to find another way to make a living.

Labor and machinery costs are what we can't meet. Is it going to help the producer to receive a high price which will have to be absorbed by labor and have them receive another increase, so they can buy what we raise. It seems to me there is no end to the way we are going.

—Charles Moore
Glade Park, Colorado

It is hard to express an intelligent opinion on the soil bank plan, as we do not have anything definite to go on at the present time. However, in the event that large acreages over the Nation should be planted to grass for permanent pasture, I feel that it would be detrimental to the livestock industry. It would create a surplus of meat, similar to our surplus of wheat, with the disadvantage of being perishable and more expensive to store. The public is not educated in the use of frozen meat to the extent that we could avoid such a surplus.

Also it would find a lot of people unprepared, as they are not equipped

(Continued on page 40.)



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QUIZ

(Continued from page 39.)

to run sheep or cattle due to lack of fencing, buildings, and watering facilities which would add up to quite a large investment. I don't see how they could meet these expenses on a reduced income, such as they surely would have in taking land out of production during the necessary time required to seed it down and convert to a new business.

It is true that there would be a steady influence for a year or two due to the demand for breeding stock, until this new grass land was stocked. Then we would still be looking for new markets for our dressed meats. We don't seem to have a shortage of meat at the present time.

Are we satisfied that we have a good thing in the Wool Act? It seems that it is going to cost a great deal more to administer than when it was set up, due partly to the national average price of wool. Will this help to promote public relations?



SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

National Association Events

July 17-18: Meetings of NWGA Executive Committee and AWC Council of Directors, Helena, Montana...

AUGUST 16-17: NATIONAL RAM SALE, OGDEN, UTAH.

January 21-24, 1957: 92nd annual meeting, NWGA, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Conventions and Meetings

February 5-7: New Mexico Wool Growers' Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

February 13-16: Western States Meat Packers' Convention, San Francisco, California.

June 14-15: California Wool Growers' Convention, Davis, California.

July 24-26: Colorado Wool Growers' Convention, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

JANUARY 21-24, 1957: NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS' CONVENTION, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

Sales

AUGUST 16-17: NATIONAL RAM SALE, OGDEN, UTAH.

September 20: Montana Ram Sale, Miles City, Montana.

Shows

February 10-19: San Antonio Livestock Exposition, San Antonio, Texas.

March 24-28: Grand National Junior Livestock Exposition, Cow Palace, San Francisco.

November 2-11: Grand National Livestock Exposition, Cow Palace, San Francisco.

I like that statement in the January National Wool Grower by Andrew D. Little, Idaho president, where he is referring to the problems of the sheep industry. He says, "The only people who can and will solve these problems are the wool growers themselves." At the same time we must realize that we can't go it alone.

—Arthur Appling
Friend, Oregon

If livestock were permitted to graze land that has been taken out of crop production and planted to grass, there is no doubt that it would increase the number of livestock. This would increase the already surplus supply of beef. The surplus of beef would surely have an effect on the price of lamb and mutton. Sheep numbers would surely increase. The increase would probably have more effect on the surplus of meat than on wool. I understand we could stand a substantial increase in the production of wool.

I think it would damage the sheep industry very much to let livestock graze these acres. If we are going to have a soil bank and take land out of crop production, we should do just that and not use this land to create a surplus in another commodity.

—D. A. Tebbs
Panguitch, Utah

I think the soil bank plan is no good for the livestock industry as a whole. It would create more small farm flocks and would probably create a surplus of sheep.

I think the sheep industry will come as near standing on its own as any in farming and livestock raising.

I guess there is no one thing that would be good for everybody, so if it will help most of the people, let them have it.

—Noel Kincaid
Carlsbad, New Mexico

The only proposal in regard to the soil bank favored at all in this part of the country is the one proposed by the American Farm Bureau, without grazing or harvesting; and we think the administration of their plan would be a tremendous and costly undertaking.

There are a great many farmers buying cows at the present time with the expectation of grazing them on their soil bank acreage. With the cattle surplus already high, and the fact that the stockmen have constantly avoided high price supports, I think it would be wrong to allow these acres to be grazed. I think there might be a better way to decrease the wheat surplus.

—J. R. Wood
Fossil, Oregon

If they allow this grass land to be grazed it will be very unfavorable to

the sheep industry. There will be a great many farmers who will go into sheep because their pasture will be already paid for by the Government and anything at all that they get out of the sheep will be clear profit. This is bound to hurt the market, which is very poor as it is.

If the farmer is to be paid to take his land out of production, there is no reason to let him build up a surplus in livestock.

—Antoine Jarajuria
Tensed, Idaho

I think the soil bank plan would hurt the sheep industry.

—Gus Morris
Grand Valley, Colo.

I feel the soil bank plan will only hurt the sheepmen and all stockmen who are raisers of only stock and have no other business. My reason is that the grain man would not be depending on the livestock on these lands for his living. I can see no way of it bringing down grain prices for livestock feeding. The wheatmen who raise cattle have done considerable damage to the old-time cattlemen. The grain man only has the cattle as a side line, and he has had such high prices for grain, if he took a loss on the livestock, it did no harm to him.

—Louis E. Jaussaud
Walla Walla, Wn.

The soil bank plan would not affect the sheep industry immediately. However, when this grass is turned into meat it would certainly increase the supply and as there seems to be an over-supply now, with more, the over-supply would be worse, and the price lower. In other words, the Government would be creating another competitor. As far as being beneficial or not, I cannot say, because our country as a whole is our greatest asset. If the agricultural business gets much worse, I will go broke. To me this would not be as bad as to live in a country where there was not enough.

If another war were to come along, I would rather lose my business than to have curtailed production as the coal miners did for nine months before the Korean war.

I suggest that the Government go into this very carefully, with the knowledge that they are creating an artificial competitor, unless restrictions are made to curtail potential production. No production should be made until the time is ready to increase it. War, increased population or some other factor might bring about such a time.

In my opinion Ezra Taft Benson is big enough to see these things and I will accept his judgment.

—D. Ray Tebbs,
Panguitch, Utah

I notice in the newspaper reports of the National Cattlemen's convention that Secretary Benson has assured the cattlemen that the crop land converted to soil bank will not be used for grazing or hay production. So I can't see any reason why we sheep raisers can't go along with the idea. We may have more wool than we are using; however, I don't think we have a surplus of lamb meat. Many stores do not carry lamb because it is hard to get and they have trouble keeping a steady supply. Our local markets do not carry lamb. Safeway Stores at Enterprise, our county seat town, usually have lamb in their meat department.

Many people have a notion they don't like lamb. I bought a leg of lamb last summer and we roasted it and served several people who had the idea it wasn't good. They all said it was delicious and the gravy, too.

—C. C. Wyckoff
Wallowa, Oregon

I can't help but believe that the soil bank plan would be a good thing for the sheep industry and would fit in with our avowed principle of increasing the number of sheep in the United States. It could conceivably open up the market for breeding ewes and ewe lambs for the foundation of farm flocks on some of these new grassed areas. Should an appreciable increase in numbers ensue, there would be a direct and beneficial effect upon our domestic markets due to the increased interest that would be shown by processors in the larger supplies. I firmly believe that greater supplies of lamb, in particular, would do more to stimulate the promotion and consumption of lamb than most any other program.

—Sieben Livestock Co.
Helena, Montana

About the only way I see that the soil bank plan could help the sheep industry would be a possible reduction in feed costs but the purpose of the plan is to decrease the production acreage, thus raising prices received by the farmer who is out. However, any plan to raise the income of the farmer should help the country as a whole, thus indirectly helping the sheep industry.

So long as there are hungry people in the world any reduction of production of food is certainly shortsighted; the problem is distribution and the sooner our Government solves that problem, the sooner we will get to a solution of the farm problem.

—Dennis Bros.
Gail, Texas

We feel the more land put into pasture, the more people will raise sheep and cattle. Supplies will go up, and demand will not take care of the in-

crease. Therefore, prices of livestock will go still lower. Unless the land is taken out of production altogether, can't see where this could do much good.

—Ohlson Bros.
Stewarts Point, Calif.

MORE ABOUT CROSSBREEDING

The increased trend toward crossbreeding and its effect on the industry is a question to ponder. Most of us are so concerned with keeping our heads above water right now, that we forget the future.

Crossbreeding is a good thing in many respects. It produces larger lambs, which automatically makes for larger lamb checks. The coarser wools have less shrinkage. Also, the way we sell wool at the present, it doesn't pay to try for the fine wools. They all average out for the same price.

Crossbreeding, on the other hand, could be a detriment to foundation breeding stock. The only solution to this is to pay the pure-line breeder sufficiently for his fine wool and breeding stock. Otherwise, crossbreeding could sour on us, like the selling of lamb to the armed forces.

—Douglas Gilger
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

The effect on the industry of crossbreeding will depend on what the buyers will want from the mills.

I like a good long staple fine wool, which I think we can get from the Rambouillets without any crossbreeding.

I listened to the selection of the Cotton Queen for 1956. This seemed to be a gala affair. If we have a Wool Queen, this poor shepherd has not met her yet. Think we should keep up with cotton if not outdo them.

—Paul N. Shaw
Hodges, Montana

RAILROADS WITHDRAW REDUCED RATES

The schedules setting up a reduction of 50 cents per hundred pounds in westbound rates on fresh meats have been withdrawn by the railroads. Hearings were to have been held on this proposal in Salt Lake City commencing January 16. The cancellation, in the opinion of Charles E. Blaine, commerce specialist for the NWGA, is only temporary and the reduced rates will be re-filed soon with some modification.

Frozen Lamb Imports Cause Concern

"FROZEN lamb in consumer size packages is tried in the U. S. by New Zealand meat firms. Over 40,000 pounds of chops and boned roasts are being marketed experimentally here by two major down-under meat packers. An official from one of these firms says: 'New Zealand leg of lamb retails in England for about 35 cents a pound. The same cut is 70 cents here. Even with a 3 cents-a-pound tariff, we should be able to compete with domestic lamb.'"

This item in the Wall Street Journal of December 27, 1955 immediately put NWGA President J. H. Breckenridge on the telephone with leading packers to find out what it was all about. The information he obtained was this:

At least a part of the 40,000 pounds of lamb cuts was sold last October by the International Packers. The legs were part of a shipment brought in last spring. It is understood they sold at 35 cents a pound f.o.b. Los Angeles after having been transported from New Zealand to New York and from New York to Los Angeles. According to reports, the packers probably lost money on the legs.

It is also generally understood that Australia and New Zealand packers do not have the facilities at present to handle this type of exportation. To prepare the lamb carcass or cuts properly, they must be aged prior to freezing. The down-under packers, it is claimed can do the freezing job but do not have the space to store the carcasses while they age. Secondly, it is held by some packers here very doubtful that the capital expenditure that would be invested in providing the necessary cooling facilities would not be justified in view of the small amount of business available in the United States.

However domestic producers, President Breckenridge asserts, should not set back complacently on this assumption. The over-seas packers may be able to build up a consumer acceptance of the product here and the domestic industry should be alerted to that possible outcome. At present the bulk of the lamb shipments from Australia and New Zealand go to England and the Continent.

A second alert also should be sounded. In the opinion of some meat packers, a new form of meat preservation, atomic irradiation may become much more important than freezing.

The Auxiliaries

EAT LAMB WEAR WOOL ... FOR HEALTH • BEAUTY AND GOODNESS SAKE

NATIONAL CONVENTION SPEECH

President Wright's Statement

IT is a great privilege and honor to be here today to represent the Women's Auxiliary and accept the hospitality of this great State of Texas.

We know we are going to enjoy ourselves as well as try to work out the problems of our industry.

The projects of the Women's Auxiliary are Lamb Promotion and "The Make It Yourself With Wool" sewing contest. As you know the latter one is sponsored jointly with the Wool Bureau. Later in the program you will see the results of this year's work in the beautiful wool garments styled by the contestants. This is our ninth contest year, and each year sees the contest bigger and better. Each year more virgin wool yardage is found on the shelves of local stores.

We also have more and more States asking to come into the contest. This year, Missouri is our new State, organized in June. They are now a member of our Auxiliary. Next year we will have Ohio and Iowa in our contest.

In our show this year there will be 15 States covering more than a million square miles. They are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, with 11 State-organized auxiliaries and several yet to be.

I have attended many of the State conventions, and I have found the auxiliaries doing splendid work. In fact, it is very encouraging to see the interest and amount of work that has been done.

It is an inspiration to work with the lovely girls who enter this contest. There is not a question in my mind that this contest is a fine educational program. We are not only promoting wool and its many uses, we are helping to make these girls better fitted to become homemakers of tomorrow.

Miss Wool of Texas, with her beautiful wool wardrobe, will be presented by the Ladies Auxiliary of Texas in conjunction with clothing manufacturers. A truly worth-while and far-reaching project, adding much benefit and interest to the industry.

Our lamb promotion program under the guidance of Mrs. Ora Chipman of American Fork, Utah, has expanded and

made a good start during the year. We were able to get the State officers of the School Lunch Program in some of the States interested in serving lamb dishes at the school lunchrooms. This program is well under way and will develop more this coming year. I wish to urge all auxiliary members to help in their communities with this program, because it requires a lot of contact and follow-up work. There is great potentiality in the School Lunch Program to increase the use of lamb.

The blue sticker stamps—"Eat Lamb, Wear Wool"—distributed to the States, serve as a promotion piece and secondarily as a means of helping to finance both the National and State Auxiliaries. This program has been well supported, for which please accept our thanks.

I wish at this time to thank our Auxiliary officers, all the State presidents, and officers and the State contest directors, all the judges, and all the State wool growers' associations, and the National Wool Growers Association for

their loyal and unselfish support of the Auxiliaries and the contest work.



UTAH CONTEST WINNERS

John Nelson, Salt Lake City manager, F. W. Woolworth Company, congratulates Sylvia Vincent, (left) Provo, junior division winner in the Utah "Make It Yourself With Wool" competition, while Anna Stock of Logan, senior winner looks on. Contest was held during Utah convention, January 9.



NWGA Photo

TALKING OVER THE HOME SEWING contest at the Hotel Texas during the 91st National convention were from left to right, Mary North, director of home sewing, The Wool Bureau; Krestine Dickinson, Nevada senior contest winner; Mrs. J. T. Murdock, past auxiliary president; Mrs. J. W. Robertson, Twin Falls, Idaho; Leona Strange, Nevada junior winner; and Mrs. Earl S. Wright, national auxiliary president.

Convention Held Full Schedule For National Auxiliary Women

by MRS. ROY M. LAIRD
Secretary-treasurer

TEXAS is "Big" and they give you "Big" entertainment—that's what everyone who was at the National Convention in Fort Worth, Texas from January 23rd to 26th is saying. We ladies could have been the contestants by the way our host State, Texas, treated us.

There was the "Get Acquainted Hour"—and I mean we "got acquainted." Mrs. R. E. Hutchinson, our chairman of arrangements for entertainment and her committee saw to that. It was lovely. The table decorations at all occasions were beautiful. I particularly liked the large green leaves with the sparkles on them that they used as background with their flowers. On this night they were gold with red carnations. Now we're acquainted and just beginning our wonderful three days.

Our National Auxiliary President, Mrs. Earl S. Wright, Dubois, Idaho, gave all of us and by that I mean she was at the joint meeting on Tuesday, a brief resume of the activities and promotions of our National Auxiliary. She also thanked everyone including, and especially, those district contest directors and Auxiliary workers at the far corners and middle of our States who make the wonderful "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest of ours more successful each year.

The Auxiliary luncheon at the Hilton Hotel was a good example of how our Texas ladies like things done "to perfection," even the food. Mrs. E. S. Mayer, Sonora, Texas, president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Auxiliary, was our Mistress of Ceremonies. Mrs. Louis J. Wardlaw and Mrs. R. E. Hutchinson gave hours of planning for our hosts, the livestock interests of Fort Worth. Their time and efforts were not in vain. Everyone went away exclaiming "a lovely luncheon"—as I said before, a perfect time.

The Silver Lounge (14th Floor, Hotel Texas) was a gathering place for many of our affairs and the Fort Worth Clearing House Association Hour Tuesday again made Texas famed hospitality a reality.

Mrs. R. E. Mayer, Sonora, assisted by Mrs. John Alexander, Texas, planned our sightseeing tour of Fort Worth and Dallas Wednesday—first to see the wonderful Will Rogers Coliseum, then through the Park and on to the Texas Christian University grounds. They were all very impressive.

In Dallas, well, being women we had time for Neiman-Marcus and then a look at the Statler Hilton Hotel while we were waiting for our group to all gather for the trip home.

The fashion show for our "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest, sponsored jointly by The Wool Bureau, Inc. and our Auxiliary was the best—in other words SUPER. When I say that, I mean it. Mr. Warren Leslie, of Neiman-Marcus, the very able and versatile commentator of the show said, "Why those girls are wonderful"—what more can one say except thanks to Miss Mary North and her excellent helpers, Mrs. W. L. Joyce, Fort Worth, Texas, and Mrs. J. W. Robertson, Twin Falls, Idaho, who gave unselfishly of their



THE AUTHOR
Mrs. Laird at work.

time to keep our girls on schedule for the many wonderful activities and entertainments besides the hours of photographing and modeling instructions. The presentation of Miss Wool of Texas was another fashion show highlight. She is beautiful and sweet and her lovely wardrobe would be the pride and joy of any girl.

It sounds as if we were playing all the time, but we were not. I believe that I can truthfully say there was a bigger attendance at our meetings than previous years. We had four worthwhile and constructive meetings. With our gracious president, Mrs. Earl S. Wright presiding, ideas concerning wool and lamb promotion were tossed about. Our contest "Make It Yourself With Wool" of course took the precedent place although our enthusiasm to get lamb into our school lunch programs is catching on now that Mrs. Ora Chipman, American Fork, Utah, Lamb Promotion chairman, has started it in Utah.

Washington State Auxiliary has a splendid working idea, "Lamburgers." Doesn't that have a catchy sound?

Good, too! I predict that we can serve those at every State fair and in no time the markets will be forced to start making Lamburger. There's our cheaper cuts of meat taken off the hook.

Colorado came up with the suggestion "Lamb for Mother's Day." The Oregon group gives of their time and meat in barbecues for their business and professional people. And there were many thoughts too numerous to mention here.

As a team, even though we are in the far corners of our many States, we can and will pull together for a bigger and better—

Wool Promotion
Lamb Promotion

More on Bidegaray Letter

THREE cheers to Mr. John Bidegaray for his timely letter to the Hart, Schaffner & Marx Clothing Co.—and to the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER Magazine for having the courage to print it in the December, 1955 issue.

This kind of advertising has been going on a long time and now that we have the incentive payment plan and 708 organized and started on the way, I believe it is time we hit this deal from the other end and put all the pressure possible on the wool manufacturing companies in this country to buy domestic wool.

We American wool growers, however, are partly to blame for this situation. It is hard for many growers to realize that the old days are gone forever when, like Grandad, they could throw a half-tied fleece (with all the tags inside) into the wool bag, and maybe a little sand added on the sly, sew it up, sell it and get away with it. Buyers are not guessing on wool any more. They do not have to. They can buy imported wool that is graded, with the grade marked on each bale and they know what they are getting. We have to meet this competition by doing a better job of packaging our wool. Until we do—all our efforts at promoting domestic wool will be hard to put over.

Any chance of getting an adequate protective tariff on imported wool in the foreseeable future is just wishful thinking, so we have to hit this problem from a different angle. I believe Mr. Bidegaray's letter is a start in the right direction. When the American public becomes well informed on a subject, they generally react in the American way. I hope more of our good intelligent and resourceful sheepmen, of whom there are many in this fine old organization, will concentrate on this line of action. It might have far-reaching results.

—Cecil Fairchild
Selah, Washington



FIRST PLACE WINNERS

Left: Julie Anne Simmons, 16, Preston, Idaho, junior. Right: Mrs. Carolyn Lee Wright, 19, Boone, Colorado, senior.



SECOND PLACE WINNERS

Left: Gladys Nakabe, 21, San Francisco, senior. Right: Joan Stewart, 17, Sherwood, Oregon, junior.

GRAND PRIZE WINNERS: Miss Merry Jo Stewart (left), 15, of Ault, Colorado, and Miss Kay Rohrig, 19, of Mitchell, Nebraska, model the home-created fashions which won them top national awards in the ninth annual "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest. Miss Rohrig receives the title of national senior champion, and Miss Stewart, the junior championship.



Wool Bureau Photos

National Contest Winners

by **ED ZIMMERMAN**
Director, Press Relations, The Wool Bureau

A 15-year-old Colorado high school sophomore and a 19-year-old Nebraska girl won the grand prizes at the ninth annual "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest, held on January 25 in Fort Worth, Texas. They were selected from a field of 30 national finalists after modeling their home-sewn fashions in the national fashion revue which climaxes the event.

The national sewing champions are Miss Merry Jo Stewart of Ault, Colorado, in the junior division, and Miss Kay Rohrig of Mitchell, Nebraska, in the senior division.

The young women will receive two-week, all-expense-paid trips to Europe, via Pan American World Airways, and will enjoy a visit to New York and intensive tours of Paris and Rome as guests of The Wool Bureau and Pendleton Woolen Mills.

More than 7,000 women between the ages of 14 and 22 enter the annual sewing contest, which offers more than \$35,000-worth of awards. The national finalists, chosen through area and State eliminations in their home States, represent the finest sewing talent in the West. They will share national prizes which include travel, scholarships, U. S. Savings Bonds and many other valuable awards.

A tall brunette with blue eyes, Miss Stewart hopes to attend Colorado A.

& M. and enter the field of home economics. In addition to her enjoyment of sewing, she is keenly interested in cooking and home decoration. She won her title with a suit of rich brown wool tweed, heavily nubbed with gray and red. The suit jacket has a Peter Pan collar and eight self-covered buttons.

Slender and blue-eyed, Miss Rohrig works as a teller and bookkeeper in the First National Bank in Mitchell. A student of design, she hopes to continue her studies—possibly in Paris—and become a fashion designer or wardrobe coordinator for an exclusive shop or department store.

Her award-winning costume is a dinner dress of sheer all-wool black crepe, worn with a princess-style coat of black hard-finish worsted. The ensemble is entirely of her own design.

The dress has an extremely full skirt which emphasized its small waist.

Other national award winners are:

First prize, junior division: Julie Anne Simmons, 16, of Preston, Idaho—a slant-needle Singer sewing machine in spinet cabinet, presented by Singer Sewing Machine Company.

First prize, senior division: Mrs. Carolyn Wright, 19, of Boone, Colorado—a \$300 scholarship, presented by Forstmann Woolen Company.

Second prize, junior division: Joan Stewart, 17, of Sherwood, Oregon—a \$300 scholarship, presented by Pendleton Woolen Mills.

Second prize, senior division: Gladys

Nakabe, 21, of San Francisco, California: a straight needle Singer sewing machine in console cabinet, presented by Singer Sewing Machine Company.

Third prize, junior division: Darlene Whitmore, 17, of Conrad, Montana—a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond by I. A. Wyner & Company.

Third prize, senior division: Mrs. Marilyn Dover, 22, of Lovell, Wyoming—a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond by S. Stroock & Company.

Fourth prize, junior division: Sandra Hesse, 16, of Pleasant Hill, California—a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond by Botany Mills, Inc.

Fourth prize, senior division: Nancy Ann Fore, 20, of Estancia, New Mexico—a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond, presented by the Producers Livestock Marketing Association of Ogden, Utah.

A special award of a \$500 scholarship to the student who best combines high academic standing with outstanding sewing ability: Elinor Van Dyke, 18, of Smithton, Missouri. The award is presented by Colorado Woman's College, Denver.

The 30 finalists traveled to Fort Worth as guests of the F. W. Woolworth Company. Their five-day stay in the Texas city included attendance at special dinners and luncheons, television appearances and sightseeing tours of Fort Worth and Dallas.

The annual contest is sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers Association and The Wool Bureau.

AROUND THE Range Country

Around the Range Country gives our readers a chance to express their opinions about anything pertaining to the industry or about life in general. In offering this space for free expression of thought, the National Wool Grower assumes no responsibility for any statement made. The statement about pasture conditions is taken from the U. S. Weather Bureau report for the week ending January 23, 1956.

PASTURES

Higher temperatures and sufficient soil moisture are causing significant growth of pasture and range grasses in the central and northern Pacific Coastal States. Better-drained pastures are furnishing some feed; however, since most grazing lands are still too wet, livestock are generally dependent on stored feed. In the Nevada-Utah area supplemental feeding has been decreased as livestock are faring well under the influence of mild weather and improved ranges. In Arizona ranges are still in fair to good condition, although additional rains are needed, but in southern California the rains were too light to be beneficial and grass is becoming very dry and stock-water levels low. The cold weather and snow-covered and icy ranges in the Northern Border States and Great Plains were unfavorable for livestock, but losses were held at a minimum by increased supplemental feeding. The moisture received during the week in eastern portions of Oklahoma and Texas and in the Gulf area should start the growth of range grasses as the temperatures moderate. Rains were helpful for pastures in the Southeast, but recovery is retarded by the cold weather.

CALIFORNIA

Stewarts Point, Sonoma County January 20, 1956

We have had a wet spell with 35 days' rain. The condition of the winter forage is fair, and we have had to do no supplemental feeding.

We are maintaining the same size breeding flock as last year, and feeding no lambs this winter.

There were some white-faced yearling ewes sold recently at \$21.

We have some sheep disease problems in this area.

—Ohlson Bros.

Williams, Colusa County January 9, 1956

There have been frequent rains here the last few weeks, and the temperature has remained mild.

Forage on the winter range is good. We have had to feed a little hay. Baled alfalfa hay costs us \$35 per ton. Later we will feed barley at a cost of two cents per pound.

Some 12-months' wool clips have sold here at from 42 to 46 cents a pound.

Sheep flocks are in fair to good condition.

We have some trouble with foot rot and lamb paralysis. Coyotes are slightly more numerous than a year ago.

Herders in this area are very scarce.

Operating costs in 1955 were about the same as they were in 1954.

—John O'Brien

COLORADO

Alamosa, Alamosa County December 15, 1955

We have nice weather here in San Luis Valley, but it is very dry. However, the forage is average and we have no disease problems.

Flocks on the average are in good shape. I usually feed cotton cake in the winter, but am not buying any this year. Baled alfalfa hay is \$25, with some asking \$28 for it.

We have carried over about 12 percent fewer ewe lambs this year than last.

October 20th is our breeding date. We bred about the same number of ewes as we did last year.

We have plenty of sheepherders here, and I haven't heard a coyote in two years.

There have been no recent sales of yearling ewes. I believe the farm flocks are being maintained about as usual, with a little liquidation on the range.

—Virgil Mitchell

Glade Park, Mesa County January 11, 1956

I only operate about 400 head of ewe lambs, so I'm not really qualified to answer your questions as to general operations in the area. I received \$28 for my yearling ewes, but they weighed between 145 and 150 pounds. The purchaser was very well satisfied and wants to take them again next year at the average lamb price.

Costs of operating in 1955 were the same as in 1954.

There are about 25 percent more ewes in my flock this year than last. Sheep flocks here are in good shape.

Forage on the winter range is extremely dry; we've had springlike

weather for the past few weeks. We've fed some hay and ear corn. Baled hay runs about \$20 per ton.

Some whitefaced crossbred yearling ewes sold here at from \$20 to \$28 per head.

I run in fenced pasture and don't use a herder.

—Chas. Moore

Grand Valley, Garfield County January 11, 1956

Operating costs of the sheep business are becoming higher and more complicated each year. If something isn't done soon to relieve things, the sheep business will fall to the wayside.

The herder situation here is somewhat better at present.

I have heard of some whitefaced crossbred yearling ewes selling at different prices recently. The range was from \$22 to \$26 per head.

It has been very warm and dry here. Feed on the winter range is poor—short and dry. We have been supplementing with corn or corn pellets at a cost of \$72 per ton, f.o.b. railhead. Baled hay is selling at about \$18 per ton here.

Sheep flocks are in good flesh considering the dry weather.

Coyotes are fairly well under control at the present time.

—X

IDAHO

Tensed, Benewah County January 12, 1956

The winter range is in poor condition because of early freezing weather. There is more snow here now than is usual for this area. Sheep have been feeding in corn fields. Later we will feed range pellets, oats and peas, as concentrates at a cost of \$51 per ton. Baled hay is \$35 per ton and it is very scarce.

Sheep flocks here are in fine condition.

Costs of operation in 1955 were a little higher than in 1954.

The herder situation is very poor.

—Antoine Jarajuria

Twin Falls, Twin Falls County
January 6, 1956

We've had a good bit of weather in Twin Falls since our cold snap in mid-November. It has been raining quite a little and has been pretty sloppy, but by and large I think the stock has gotten along pretty well and we are in very good shape for moisture.

—J. H. Breckenridge

MONTANA

Bozeman, Gallatin County
January 9, 1956

We are feeding 500 lambs this winter. Our breeding flock is smaller than it was last year.

Weather has been moderate the past few weeks, but we have 12 inches of snow. We feed our sheep throughout the winter. Baled hay is selling at from \$20 to \$22 per ton.

We had some trouble with vibrionic abortions last year.

There are slightly more coyotes here than there have been for the past seven or eight years.

Labor costs were about the same in 1955 as in 1954, but material goods have had a tendency to be higher.

—Ralph Sime

Bridger, Carbon County
January 17, 1956

Our flocks are in fair condition in most of this section. The forage is good and we have had to do no supplemental feeding. When we do we use Occident Redtag at \$81.20, plus \$4 trucking.

Alfalfa hay costs \$12 to \$14 loose and \$17 to \$21 baled.

We have a larger breeding flock this year than last. No lambs are being held over this winter.

There are no recent transactions in wool or yearling ewes that I know of.

We are not bothered with sheep diseases, and the coyote problem has disappeared in the last two years.

Our operating costs for 1955 are higher than 1954.

—Charles Shupak

Helena, Lewis and Clark County
January 12, 1956

Our breeding flocks are ten percent larger this year and in excellent condition, although we have some trouble with enterotoxemia in lambs.

The coyotes are also becoming more numerous in this district.

The forage on the winter range is good to excellent. Our particular area

is free of ice, unlike many other parts of Montana.

On January 1, we started feeding one-third pound cake of 20 percent grain pellet which cost \$69 delivered. No hay fed yet. It costs \$17 per ton loose; \$22 per ton baled.

Costs are up probably 10 percent this year over 1954.

—Sieben Livestock Co.

Hodges, Dawson County
December 31, 1955

We have had advantageous weather for sheep: light snows, some melting, with plenty of grass above the snow and snow for water.

Our sheep are in very good condition.

We use Lincoy—one-third soybean, one-third cottonseed and one-third linseed—as a winter concentrate. It costs us \$85 per ton. Loose hay is \$8 to \$10 a ton and baled, \$11 to \$15.

We bought about 1300 aged ewes last fall and sold them this fall. They gave us a lot of trouble, as we do not have enough fence.

There have been no recent transactions in wool in this area. Most of it was sold in June; nor have there been any recent sales of yearling ewes.

There are very few sheepherders in this locality, and we have had considerable loss from coyotes.

Most of the interest here is in small flocks.

—Paul Shaw

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NEVADA

Reno, Washoe County
January 10, 1956

I was in the sheep business in Nevada from 1910 to 1943, and I then sold out. Since that time I have inspected once a year nearly all the sheep in the western half of Nevada for disease for the Nevada State Sheep Commission. I am also field man for the Nevada Livestock PCA. Forage conditions on the winter range have improved a lot in the last 60 days. At the present time, I would say range conditions are good.

We've had all kinds of weather the past few weeks. There has been plenty of moisture . . . lots of rain, some snow, but not much cold.

No supplemental feeding has been done here as yet. Baled hay is selling at from \$25 to \$30 per ton. Corn is usually fed during the winter as a concentrated feed.

All sheep flocks I have inspected this winter have been in good condition. Most breeding flocks are smaller this winter than a year ago.

There is a scarcity of good herders here.

Coyotes are more numerous than usual. There are lots of wild cats here, too. Because of this, spring lamb losses will undoubtedly increase.

Operating costs in 1955 were up over 1954, and income on lambs, old ewes and wool was down.

—Walter Handley

NEW MEXICO

Carlsbad, Eddy County
January 12, 1956

Some short wool sold here recently at from 30 to 40 cents a pound. My ranch is located in Culberson County, Texas.

We have used 1080 poison for the past four years, and this has cut coyote numbers by about 90 percent.

Expense of operating was about the same in 1955 as in 1954, although we had to cut our costs to come close to our income prices. If we have to feed this year, I don't see how we'll be able to with present prices.

Forage on the winter range is fair, but we surely need moisture. It has been very warm and dry here the past few weeks.

Later, we'll feed cottonseed meal and salt mixed at a cost of \$63 per ton. Baled alfalfa hay is selling at \$30 per ton.

Sheep flocks are in good shape at the present time.

We have sheep-proof fencing, and we're not bothered with the herder situation.

—Noel Kincaid

OREGON

Fossil, Wheeler County

January 14, 1956

We've had no trouble with the herder situation. We've got a good man.

Forage on the winter range is very good. There has been more moisture this fall and winter than since 1949. It was very cold here in November. Weather has varied since then, with some snow, rain and sunshine.

We have supplemented our feed with alfalfa hay at a cost of \$30 per ton loose and \$35 per ton baled. We feed 16 percent cubes to our sheep. This costs us \$57.50 per ton. We also feed steam rolled barley at a cost of \$55.50 per ton.

Sheep flocks here are in very good condition, much better than they were last year. Our breeding flock is slightly smaller than it was a year ago.

We sold our wool on December 13 at 37½ cents a pound.

Coyotes are almost extinct in this area.

Operating costs were generally higher in 1955 than in 1954. This was mostly in the cost of equipment and parts.

—J. R. Wood

Friend, Wasco County

January 10, 1956

Higher operating costs prevailed in 1955 than in 1954. Our spring and summer feed situation was bad due to a cold, late, dry spring and excessive damage to our range and crops by deer. As yet, the State Livestock Association has been unable to get a rancher representative on the five-man board of the game commission which is appointed by the Governor. Excessive numbers of deer and elk have become a statewide problem about which very little is done. All this results in a reduced hay crop which forces hay prices up. Taxes are also higher this year in general.

Forage on the winter range is in good condition. We've had lots of moisture since December 1. It has been stormy here the past few weeks, with more precipitation than during the whole of 1955.

We have been supplementing our feed since December 5. We feed baled alfalfa hay at \$35 per ton. As a concentrate we use molasses (\$33 per ton) and barley (\$45 per ton).

Sheep flocks in this area are in excellent condition.

Our breeding flock is larger than it was a year ago.

Coyote numbers hold about steady. We hear them holler in the fall, but 1080 poison seems to get them each fall so we're not bothered too much.

All our sheep run on fenced pastures, and we have no herders.

—Arthur Appling

Wallowa, Wallowa County

January 17, 1956

Our operation costs are up 2 percent this year over 1954. If things don't get better, several large operators will be forced to sell out their outfits, as it takes 20-cent lambs and 60-cent wool to make a living. Most sheepmen sold their lambs for 17 cents straight and we don't know yet what wool will bring.

The flocks are in good shape, the same size as last year. Since November 1, we have fed a salt mixture with cotton and soybean meal—one-third salt, two-thirds meal. Meal costs \$4.60 per hundredweight. Mineralized salt is \$2.80 per hundred.

Loose hay costs \$25 per ton; baled \$30. There is very little in our country.

The last ewes sold in this vicinity were around \$22 per head. No recent sales.

Government trappers and poison bait are keeping the coyotes in control.

We have had warm snow and rain; then sunshine and melting weather, but the range is under a heavy snow cover here now.

—C. C. Wyckoff

Belle Fourche, Butte County

December 27, 1955

We had cold weather early in the fall with warm weather following.

The condition of the forage is not very good. We are doing supplemental feeding. We use Lincoy 40 percent at \$80 delivered. Hay is \$15 to \$18 loose; \$18 to \$20 baled.

Our sheep flocks are in good condition. Due to a dry summer we carried over fewer ewe lambs this fall than last. We bred about the same number of ewes commencing December 1.

There have been no recent transactions in wool or yearling ewes. The last prices paid for fine-wool and crossbred yearling ewes were \$20 to \$22.

We have no serious disease problems.

Flock numbers remain about constant on the range with a small increase in farm flocks.

—Douglas Gilger

Belle Fourche, Butte County

December 19, 1955

In November we had very cold and windy weather. The forage on the winter range is poor. The sheep flocks are in good condition in our section at this time, considering the weather with which we have to contend.

We are doing supplemental feeding now. We use soy bean concentrated feed

at \$80 a ton. Hay costs us \$20 per ton loose and \$25 baled.

We are breeding about the same number of ewes this season as last year, but have changed our breeding season from November to December. We don't keep ewe lambs.

We have no disease problems.

We have difficulty obtaining herders. The coyotes are bad in the Black Hills, but there are none on the prairie.

Business has been quiet and I know of no recent transactions in wool in this area.

Flocks are being maintained about the same as last year by most ranchers in this vicinity.

—Mrs. Paul D. Gilger

Maurine, Meade County

January 9, 1956

Winter range conditions are very poor. The weather has been rough during the past few weeks. Sheep flocks are in good condition though.

Reports indicate that the herder situation is not good.

Coyotes are less numerous here than a year ago.

Increasing costs prevailed in 1955 compared to 1954.

—Roy E. Haines

TEXAS

Eden, Concho County

December 17, 1955

We have a serious problem here with the drought and due to it liquidation is continuing. The forage is dry and short, and our sheep and cattle must have supplemental feeding all winter. The cost of baled hay is \$38 to \$40 a ton. In addition we have to use concentrated feed in the form of 20 percent grain cubes which cost \$57.50. My flocks are in fair condition.

I don't think cross breeding is good for the wool business, although it might be all right for mutton.

I carried only a few ewe lambs over last year and this. I bred fewer ewes this fall on account of the drought.

—Luster Lockett

Gail, Borden County

January 15, 1956

Sheep have wintered in very good shape so far.

We have had fairly good forage, but it is getting very dry again. We have cold nights, and very warm cloudless days.

We use a 16 to 20 percent protein mixture of grain and cottonseed meal for winter feeding. I bought the grain

for \$30 a ton and cottonseed meal for about \$75 a ton. Have not had to use any yet this year.

We are free from sheep disease problems here, but the coyotes are more numerous.

—Dennis Bros.

Kerrville, Kerr County

January 9, 1956

We feed cottonseed meal as a concentrate feed. This costs us \$70 per ton. Baled alfalfa hay sells at \$60 per ton.

It has been hot and dry here the past few weeks. Forage on the winter range is in fair condition.

Our breeding flock is the same size as it was last year.

Operating costs were higher in 1955 than in 1954.

—Diamond S. Ranch

UTAH

Panguitch, Garfield County

January 13, 1956

I had some trouble with the docking of my lambs last summer. I called in the assistance of the county agent and the local veterinarian. Although the trouble was never entirely decided, they thought it might have been caused by the use of elastrators. I lost about 50 lambs out of 1,000. If there is serious danger of giving lambs tetanus by using elastrators, I think we should be cautioned against their use.

There was a little growth of forage on the winter range, but it is so dry that it doesn't seem to have much food value. It has been very mild and dry here. We haven't had a decent storm since last September.

Loose alfalfa hay is selling at \$18 per ton and baled, \$25 per ton. We use cottonseed cake as a concentrated feed. This costs us \$72 per ton.

Sheep flocks are in fair condition. There are about the same number of ewes in our breeding flock this year as last.

Some growers are now getting their returns on their 1955 wool. It has netted them about 35 cents.

There were two sales of some very good fine woolled yearling ewes here last fall. These ewes sold locally for \$18.

We do not have a surplus of herders, but we seem to have had enough. There are very few young men willing to take up herding.

Coyotes have been less numerous here lately. I give a lot of the credit for this to our local trapper.

My costs of operation for 1955 as compared to 1954 have been very nearly the same.

—D. A. Tebbs

Panguitch, Garfield County

January 18, 1956

It has been quiet in our district, with no recent transactions in wool or yearling ewes that I know of.

Our flocks are in fair condition. We are feeding them cottonseed meal at \$75 per ton. Alfalfa hay is \$25 per ton, baled.

Our breeding flock is the same size as last year and we are not feeding any lambs this winter.

We are having considerable trouble with sheep diseases. The coyotes are more numerous than heretofore.

The weather is very dry and unusually warm for January.

—D. Ray & R. Tebbs

WASHINGTON

Quincy, Grant County

January 9, 1956

Weather has been moderate here during the past few weeks. We have gotten rid of some snow.

We have been feeding supplements now for about 60 days. Loose alfalfa hay is selling at \$28 per ton and \$33 per ton in the bale. We feed cull beans, barley and oats as concentrated feeds. The beans cost us \$5 per ton and the barley and oats run \$40 per ton.

Our breeding flock size is the same as last year.

I didn't operate in 1954. I have a small farm flock of 180 ewes and use irrigated pasture completely.

—William A. Israel

Yakima, Yakima County

January 9, 1956

I sold my wool in December for 46 cents for the three-eighths blood and 48 cents for the quarter blood.

Our operating costs in 1955 were higher than in 1954 because of later feeding last spring and poor grass cover until late in the year.

In this immediate area, the winter range has been under snow for seven weeks. It's been snowing here off and on for nearly two months.

During the winter we supplement with hay and pea silage. Hay costs us \$25 per ton and pea silage is \$6.50.

Our breeding flock is about one-half as large this year as last. Sheep flocks are in fair condition in this area.

We have had a little trouble with worms from having our sheep on irrigated pasture.

—Grover I. Jackson

Lamcoats To The Rescue

A vinyl-plastic Lamcoat, designed to protect newborn lambs from inclement weather, is catching on with sheepmen

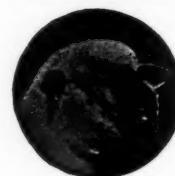


in all parts of the country. The snug fitting slip-on Lamcoat has an elastic belly band and break away seams and can be shed if the coat is caught on brush or becomes too tight. Sue Fetz, Miss San Francisco of

1953, here demonstrates how neatly Lamcoats fit. Weather won't wait for lambing and many unprotected lambs die of exposure within a few hours after their birth. Lamcoats are distributed by the California Wool Growers Association of San Francisco.

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...it's the healthy animal
not just the "normal" one
that really pays off!



Your sheep can *look* normal, and still be unhealthy and not make maximum gains.

The reason is "sub-clinical" disease—disease you can't *see*. It can be *there*—sapping the animal's vigor, using up part of the feed, holding down weight gains.

Today, there's a new way you can help prevent sub-clinical diseases and keep sheep *healthy*! Feed, from start to market, good rations that contain the world's greatest disease-fighter: AUREOMYCIN Chlortetracycline. It costs less than 1/2¢ per lamb per day!

Sheepmen say that sheep fed AUREOMYCIN

stay healthy, show a better bloom, make better gains. They report that sheep stand up under the stresses that usually follow weaning, shipment, changes in environment and diet. They report fewer losses from enterotoxemia (over-eating disease).

Where to get AUREOMYCIN. AUREOMYCIN is supplied to feed manufacturers and feed suppliers in the form of AUROFAC® Feed Supplements. Two new AUROFAC products—AUROFAC-A and AUROFAC-A Crumbles—are especially adapted to sheep feeding. Write for free booklet: "AUREOMYCIN for Sheep Feeding." •

Feed from start to market...the world's greatest disease-fighter

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COLISEUM—OGDEN, UTAH

AUGUST 16-17, 1956

UNDER MANAGEMENT NATIONAL

WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION



1955 sales toppers are pictured on this page

